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SOVIET ARMS FREEZE PROPOSAL, ARMS RACE VIEWED

LD182114 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 18 Jun 83

[From the Vremya newscast; commentary by political observer Eduard Mnatsakanov -- live or recorded]

[Text] Hello, comrades! In this edition of the Vremya program we have acquainted you with the new foreign responses which have arrived today to the work and decisions of the CPSU Central Committee plenum and the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and to the speech given at the plenum by Comrade Andropov. The world public paid great attention to everything that took place recently in the Moscow Kremlin. As the leader of the CPSU said, our aim is not only to avert war. We are striving toward fundamentally improving international relations, toward consolidating and developing all good beginnings in these relations.

This is a noble aim. However, serious obstacles have come in the way of its realization, primarily the nucelar missile arms race which is continuing in the West. The Soviet Union considers that an end must be put to this. It is time to stop now, before it is too late. The supreme organ of state power in our country has charged the Soviet Government with addressing the governments of the United States, Great Britain, France, and the People's Republic of China with a proposal for all nuclear powers to freeze simultaneously all the nuclear weapons they possess, both in quantitative and qualitative terms.

It is indeed clear that if agreement is achieved on halting, even if only halting, the further growth of nuclear arsenals, this will strengthen confidence between states and will make it possible to discuss further steps for solving the complex problems of limitation and reduction of nuclear arms in calmer conditions. The merits of a freeze are that it would be possible to come to an agreement about it at any time. It would be a simple and clear measure, requiring neither puzzling calculations, nor lengthy talks and arguments. If there is only good will.

However, it is precisely this that is missing on the other side. Almost at the same time as the session of the Soviet parliament, questions of Soviet-U.S. relations and problems of the limitation of weapons were discussed in the U.S. Congress, too. However, what new things have we learned from the speech made by U.S. Secretary of State Shultz and from the official documents prepared there? Nothing, apart from pretentious phrases on the one hand, imperial ambitions on the other hand, and lastly, obvious threats addressed to the Soviet Union and its allies.

Washington, and in its wake some of its junior NATO partners, is at the moment concerned only about one thing -- the problem of nuclear rearming with MX, Polaris, Trident and cruise missiles. This is a fact which cannot be concealed at all, not even by the high-flown words of Western politicians and diplomats. Great Britain, the British weekly TRIBUNE writes, only follows Washington obligingly and subserviently, supporting its every action, even the most insane ones. The Tory government is in fact only fulfilling the role of a messenger of Washington, the TRIBUNE states.

Of course everyone is free to choose a role to suit him and this is not what interests us in the first instance. We wish to have normal and stable relations with both the United States and its allies, relations which are founded on the principles of peace, security, and cooperation. We would like to hope for the willingness for the same thing from the other side, for a sincere and genuine willingness in deeds and not in words.

COMMENTATOR ROUNDS UP SOVIET FOREIGN, ARMS POLICY

LD171624 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Text] The full-scale meeting of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party and a session of the Soviet parliament have just been held in Moscow. Along with internal problems, those two important forums of the ruling Soviet Communist Party and of the Soviet state discussed problems concerning the present international situation and also the Soviet Union's foreign policy. Here is what Radio Moscow's news analyst, Aleksandr Zholkver, writes:

As the General Secretary Yuriy Andropov pointed out at the full-scale meeting of the party's Central Committee, the key problem of the party's foreign policy is preserving peace on earth. We are living not in simple but what can be said turbulent times. The struggle between the two world social systems, the socialist and the capitalist, has aggravated unprecedentedly. In the present nuclear missile age with its devastating arms the attempt to solve the historical dispute between those two systems through a military clash could be truly destructive for mankind. Communists are convinced that the future belongs to socialism, but that doesn't mean that we intend to export the revolution. Socialism can develop only on the soil of the objective requirements of social advancement of this or that country, and we firmly believe that socialism in the long run will prove its advantages in peaceful competition with capitalism, in peaceful and not military one, the more so since in the past few decades there has developed a military-strategic parity between socialism and capitalism. That is an objective fact, and the Soviet Union has all the necessary resources to prevent military superiority on anyone else's side. So those -- and that includes first of all the circles in Washington -- who believe that by creating a certain situation of strength they would be able to dictate conditions to the Soviet Union and its allies are nourishing absolutely futile hopes. At the same time these hopes are dangerous to all of mankind since they are fraught with the threat of nuclear catastrophe.

It is again being stressed in Moscow these days that we shall continue to do our utmost to ensure the security of our own country and of our friends and allies. But we also seek actively to lower the level of arms and military spending on both sides and to start disarmament. That would benefit greatly all countries and peoples.

In his report to the Soviet parliament Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko outlined many concrete and constructive proposals. They concern first of all curbing the buildup of the more dangerous nuclear weapons. The Soviet Union is ready for profound mutual reductions of both delivery vehicles and warheads. It's ready for honest talks without any attempt to outwit the partner or to display what is termed flexibility, which is in fact a desire for unilateral disarmament for the Soviet Union. As a first step, easiest to carry out and at the same time effective, there could be an agreement on freezing the present nuclear arsenals. This would create more favorable conditions for talks on reducing them.

The Soviet parliament has instructed the government to make a corresponding proposal to the Governments of the United States, Great Britain, France, and the People's Republic of China, having in view that such a nuclear arms freeze could come into force initially as regards the Soviet Union and the United States.

The objective of the Soviet Union is not just preventing wars. As Yuriy Andropov said, we seek a radical improvement of international relations. Strengthening the positions of world socialism, support for the people's struggle for national liberation and social progress, preventing aggressive wars and ensuring peaceful coexistence of countries with different social systems -- such are the major trends of Soviet foreign policy, which were confirmed again in Moscow recently.

SPECIALIST DISCUSSES NON-USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS VOW

LD171152 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Interview with (Stanislav Menshikov), USSR-U.S. relations specialist, by Nikolay Borin, Moscow World Service reporter -- live]

[Text] [Borin] A year ago, the Soviet Union took the obligation not to use nuclear weapons first. What does this obligation mean in its essence? Now (Stanislav Menshikov), a specialist on Soviet-American relations:

[(Menshikov)] Indeed, a year ago, we have formally declared at the United Nations that the Soviet Union will not be the first to use nuclear weapons under any circumstances. We have also invited other nuclear powers to join us in this unilateral obligation. This would have the practical effect of de facto banning the use of nuclear weapons by any country. Unfortunately, neither the United States nor other nuclear powers have joined us in this obligation as of now. And that means that the Soviet Union remains the only nuclear power that has unequivocally stated that it will not use nuclear weapons first.

[Borin] Since NATO countries on their part didn't reject the possibility to be first in a nuclear strike and refuse to follow the Soviet step, wasn't it a failure?

[(Menshikov)] No, I think it was not a failure on our part. First of all, we made it quite clear that the responsibility for a nuclear war, if it starts in fact, will lie upon other countries, upon other powers, on the United States. We should ask ourselves the question why the United States has in fact refused to obligate themselves in this respect, and the answer lies in the official pronouncements by American leaders, by the leaders of the Reagan administration, by documents produced by that administration. And these documents -- for example, the latest Scowcroft Commission report -- quite clearly show that the United States intend to use nuclear weapons, to use them for a first strike against the Soviet Union, and not just for preventing the Soviet Union from using nuclear weapons, but using it against the Soviet Union in a case even of a conventional war if it starts. That's what the Scowcroft report states. It says we want the Soviet Union to know that even if a conventional war starts in Europe, the United States has the right and are intending to use nuclear weapons against the Soviet Union in that case.

[Borin] Isn't it what Reagan calls a limited war in Europe?

[(Menshikov)] Yes, this is exactly what it means. They think that they can limit the nuclear holocaust by genocide in Europe. They think that if they start war in Europe, it will not spread to other regions of the world, that it will not spread to the United States of America. This is an illusion. Many responsible statesmen in the world, including American statesmen, have said that they do not believe in limited wars like that. A nuclear war, if it starts, will spread to all countries, to all continents.

[Borin] Do you think they really want to start a nuclear war in Europe?

[(Menshikov)] Well, the fact is that they are preparing for it. Look at their own publications. They say, the Pentagon says, that it has nuclear aims -- I mean nuclear targets -- not just in the Soviet Union, not just in the socialist countries of Eastern Europe. They have nuclear targets in Western Europe, from Italy to Germany, even in neutral Austria. And what is the meaning of this?

The meaning of this is that they would like to create a belt of burned-out land from the Mediterranean to the Baltic Sea, a belt of burned-out land that will separate communist, socialist Europe from Western Europe. That is what I call modern barbarism in its extreme form.

[Borin] Speaking finally on the Soviet obligation not to be the first in using nuclear weapons, one may ask in America or somewhere else in the West: Where are the guarantees, how do we know?

[(Menshikov)] What such people are asking is: What are the guarantees that the Soviet Union really would not use nuclear weapons first? Well, the answer to that question is first: Why should we lie? There is no sense for the Soviet Union in lying. We gain nothing by this. On the contrary, we take a great risk by obligating ourselves to a non-use of nuclear weapons. Suppose we know that the other side, that the Reagan administration, is going to strike first. Now, our obligation not to use nuclear weapons means that we would not strike first even if we knew that we would be stricken at by the Reagan administration. Why do we take such a risk? Why do we take a risk of losing many millions of lives of our people? Because we know that even a first strike by the opponents -- and we want him to know -- that his first strike will be self-suicidal for him? That is my first answer to that question.

And the second answer is that underlying our obligation is a deep understanding that at the current level of technology, no country, nobody, can win a nuclear war by striking first. And knowing perfectly well that we can return a strike of any aggressor of us, against us, against our land, against our people; knowing that we make that obligation we made a year ago -- and we know that we are sincere in that -- and people will understand our sincerity and sooner or later this will lead (?to a universal) ban of nuclear weapons, of nuclear war.

SOVIET DELEGATE'S REMARKS AT MBFR TALKS CITED

LD172223 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Text] The latest plenary meeting of the talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe has been held in Vienna. The Western viewpoint regarding verification and control measures was expounded by the head of the Luxembourg delegation. The Soviet delegation representative said in this connection that any agreement in the field of arms reduction and disarmament should provide for measures to monitor its fulfillment. He stressed that the achievement of agreement in Vienna should not boil down only to control. It should also provide for a reduction of armaments and armed forces.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD191742 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0845 GMT 19 Jun 83

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Yuriy Kornilov, TASS political observer; Vladimir Lomeyko, LITERATURNAYA GAZETA political affairs analyst; and Nikolay Agayants, All-Union radio commentator]

CPSU Plenum, Andropov Speech

[Text] [Agayants] Hello comrades. Among the most important events of the past which received the widest international response -- as confirmed by the numerous foreign telegraph agency reports we continue to get in our editorial office -- were the plenum of our party's Central Committee held on 14-15 June in Moscow, the speech made by Comrade Andropov at the plenum, and the work of the eighth session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the Tenth Convocation. Prominent political and public figures in different countries, the press, radio and television note that the plenum of the CPSU Central Committee is new clear and convincing evidence of the Leninist approach taken by the CPSU towards solving the most urgent tasks during the contemporary stage in the development of our society, evidence of the monolithic cohesion between the CPSU and the people. It is pointed out that the June plenum documents and the speech made by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, expound the tasks of communist construction -- tasks which are thoroughly scientifically-founded, and designed both for the short and the long-term. Thus, the Bulgarian radio in particular, characterizes the plenum as an event of enormous international importance. A commentary carried by OTECHESTVEN FRONT says that its results and conclusions will have an extended beneficial effect on the entire course of the further development of the USSR and of the entire socialist community. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND draws attention to the fact that the June Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee reviewed comprehensively and in depth the issue of improving the party's ideological work -- which assumes particularly great importance in the current tense international atmosphere when the United States and its allies in the aggressive North Atlantic Bloc are pursuing a dangerous course of exacerbating tension and the arms race. The AFP agency singles out the passage in Comrade Andropov's speech to the effect that the military-strategic balance between socialism and imperialism is objectively helping the peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems, and that the achievement of this balance is one of the most important results of the last decades, which has required a great deal of effort and money from the Soviet people and from the peoples of the socialist community countries.

[Kornilov] Reports from the American information agencies, from REUTER in Britain, KYODO in Japan and from other agencies cover closely the thought expressed by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov that we shall not permit anyone to disturb this balance, and we shall continue in future to do every thing that is necessary to ensure the security of our country and of our allies and friends. This clear, unambigiguous and consistent position of our state is being taken in the West as a serious warning against all kinds of adventurists, against those who indulge in balancing on the brink of war and in playing with fire.

[Lomeyko] I would like to mention also another notable aspect of the international response. In reporting the election of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of our party's Central Committee, to the post of chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, the foreign mass media point out that Comrade Andropov's activity is inseparably connected with the further consolidation of unity between our party and the people, with the firm and consistent line of our state towards preserving peace, developing detente and preventing a nuclear catastrophe.

Many serious observers note that Comrade Andropov, speaking at the plenum, expressed not only the wishes and hopes of Soviet people and communits in the whole world but he also gave expression to the anguish of the peoples, the anguish of the planet over the approaching catastrophe. He expressed the concern felt by people of good-will over the fate of human civilization.

[Kornilov] Yes, indeed, our planet is going through a turbulent and difficult period. And, if one speaks of the chief and fundamental aspect marking it, it is first and foremost, the intensive and increasingly acute struggle between the world policy of two orientations. On the one side is the consistent, principled and profoundly peaceable line of the Soviet side, a line directed towards curbing the arms race, strengthening peace and detente and defense of the sovereign rights and liberties of the peoples. On the other side is the foreign policy course of the present Washington administration, expressing the will of the most reactionary militaristic circles of imperialism in the United States and the aspirations of the military industrial complex; a source directed towards undermining detente and whipping up the arms race, a policy of threats and interference in the affairs of others, and of suppression of the liberation struggle.

[Agayants] Speaking at the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko pointed out that the banner of peace raised by our party with the victory of Great October, today is in strong hands and that the world has welcomed many times the clear actions and proposals of the Soviet Union which are imbued with the force of peaceableness.

At the current session, too, the USSR Supreme Soviet came out once again with an exceptionally important and profoundly peaceful foreign policy initiative, instructing the Soviet Government to submit to the Governments of the United States of America, Great Britain, France, the People's Republic of China a proposal for all nuclear powers simultaneously to freeze all their existing nuclear weapons in terms of both quality and quantity.

[Kornilov] Indeed, Nikolay Ivanovich, this initiative really evoked an immediate and great international response. And this is natural, for every sober-minded politician and public figure and millions of people in various continents are only too aware that one of the most essential tasks of the present time is to put an end to the increase in nuclear arms. The human conscience cannot be reconciled to the fact that nuclear arms have been accumulated in the world today, with the potential to destroy everything alive many times over, if they are used. The human conscience cannot be reconciled to the fact, that while many major social and economic problems remain unresolved in the world, while millions of people in various countries suffer from hunger, poverty, lack of housing and from the lack of necessary medical aid, at the same time billions of dollars are squandered in the furnace of the arms race because of the imperialists.

West Exacerbates Tension

[Lomeyko] I should like to say once again, that the response from the world press to the work of the CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the Supreme Soviet session bear witness to a very important factor: The world has been listening attentively this week to the voice of Moscow and received it with relief and hope. Why? There are many reasons for this. The main one, however, lies perhaps in the acutely aggravated international situation. And in these conditions, when one of the two great powers on which the climate of international relations not infrequently depends to a decisive degree, that is, the United States of America, is plotting a course towards exacerbation and confrontation, the role and responsibility of the other power is particularly increased. And the entire world managed not only to perceive but also to feel that representatives of circles having highly pronounced imperial ambitions, have now mounted the captain's bridge of Washington's foreign policy, preaching the cult of force in international relations and having pretensions to remake the world according to their own designs.

[Agayants] Yes, but to return to what you were saying earlier, Yuriy Emmanuilovich. I should like to mention that facts such as the following were cited at the USSR Supreme Soviet session in Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko's report: Washington, having launched a 5-year project for rearming America, intends to squander over $1.5 trillion on this project. Over 5 years, it plans to spend on manufacturing weapons of destruction as much as was spent in the two previous decades.

[Kornilov] In light of all these facts, and the political axiom to the effect that the unrestrained arms race unleashed by the United States and NATO is pushing the world to the brink of nuclear self-destruction, the great importance of the new Soviet initiative is particularly evident. For the freezing of all components making up nuclear arsenals would sharply raise the level of confidence in relations between powers having nuclear weapons, and would enable a decisive turnabout towards improving the general atmosphere in the world. A halt to the buildup of nuclear armaments would be an effective action and one that would be relatively easy to implement, and the starting point for their subsequent reduction, and eventually for their total elimination. Finally, this would create a more favorable situation for achieving mutually acceptable accords, too, at the current Soviet-American talks on the limitation and reduction of strategic armaments and also on nuclear armaments in Europe in accordance with the principles of equality and equal security.

[Lomeyko] It is said that style comprises the person. With respect to diplomacy, style comprises policy. In this connection, many serious observers are noting that the second 10-day period in June has indeed demonstrated the fundamental difference between the two policies and two courses of the United States and the Soviet Union and NATO and the Warsaw Treaty. This has been shown by the recent Williamsburg get-together and the NATO Council session. Another approach was shown by the CPSU Central Committee plenum and the USSR Supreme Soviet session.

[Agayants] Yes, indeed, Vladimir Borisovich, the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community follow a direct path, a highway, if you like, in international affairs. This is the course of ensuring peace and security throughout the globe and the course of friendship and cooperation with all peoples. It is the course aimed at solving any of the most complex questions, not on the battlefield or by force of arms, but at the negotiating table. Incidentally, it was precisely such a course, I would remind you, that was reaffirmed in the declaration that was adopted at the Prague meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of Warsaw Treaty member-states.

Socialist Cooperation, Goals

Speaking about the priority position that cooperation with socialist states occupies in the foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet Union, Comrade Andropov said in his speech at the plenum: We are in favor of friendship with all socialist countries. As far as our closest friends and allies -- the countries of the socialist community -- are concerned, we are of the common opinion that life requires not just an expansion of cooperation but also an enhancement of its quality and effectiveness.

The fraternal countries of our community are fruitfully interacting in literally all fields of human activity. Their links and contacts manifest themselves in many ways. They guard their unity and cohesion as they would the apple of their eye. All this is reflected in a further improvement of political interaction within the framework of the Warsaw Treaty Organization and in the common striving to achieve a qualitatively new level of economic socialist integration and coordination, which has become a powerful and stable factor in the general progress of our community. In advancing the complex and extremely important task of coordinating their common economic policy, the CPSU and fraternal communist and workers parties proceed from the urgent requirement to deepen and expand cooperation in the general and most promising directions of scientific and technological progress.

[Lomeyko] At the present time -- and this is quite obvious -- the leading spheres in the development of the world economy are those that are able to revolutionize the production process, provide considerable economies in collective labor, raise its productivity and enhance the quality of output.

[Agayants] Quite so. That is why the CEMA member states are at present concentrating their efforts first and foremost in specialization and joint production in the creation of energy-, material- and labor-saving equipment and technology. In a number of the long-term special programs that have been devised and already adopted, they have laid down the line of cooperation in industries such as the production of electronic computers, equipment for atomic power stations, ships, chemical, petrochemical and electronic equipment and the manufacture of microprocessors and robot technology, and so on. Summing up what has been said, one should note that the states of the socialist community, in pooling their efforts for joint creative activities, are guided by the noble striving to build together, make better use of the resources in our possession and arrive together at the set goals. This in the final analysis, leads and will lead to a further blossoming of national economies, a rise in well-being, a strengthening of the socialist community, an increase in its international prestige and a consolidation of peace around the globe. The positive influence of the community on current world developments is beyond doubt. The initiative belongs firmly to the community in the quest for a solution to urgent international problems, and it is to my mind deeply symbolic that the representative World Assembly for Peace and Life and Against Nuclear War will be opening next week in Prague, the golden capital of socialist Czechoslovakia.

World Concern for Peace

[Lomeyko] We are speaking in such detail about this also because many people, both in the Soviet Union and in other countries, are now concerned, more than anything else, by the problem of war and peace. In letters received by the newspapers, radio and television, people most frequently ask the question: What are the chances of preserving and consolidating peace? What are the real forces that permit the hope that the arms race will be ended and that the aggressive forces of imperialism will be curbed?

In this connection, it should be said that there are three main factors of hope: The socialist community, which we spoke of, and its relentless and consistent peace-loving course; realistic-minded thinking circles in the West; and the democratic public movement for peace, the antiwar movement. Here you, Nikolay Ivanovich, just mentioned Prague. Indeed, congregating in Prague at the moment are representatives from all countries and continents who are concerned about the issue of preserving peace. Today, one can sometimes hear the question: What can ordinary people achieve? Or, as they say in the West -- and I myself have often heard this question -- what can the ordinary man in the street achieve? How can he gain the power to counteract this mighty, gigantic pressure exerted by the military-industrial complex? The experience of recent years shows that the antiwar movement in the West has grown to an enormous scale. In alliance with the antiwar peace-loving movement existing in the socialist countries -- the movement of public opinion supporting the policy followed by the governments of socialist countries toward curbing the arms race -- this movement becomes a powerful factor.

[Kornilov] And I would say it becomes a great material force.

[Lomekyo] Indeed, a material force, since we have seen the example of just how this movement stood in the way of deploying new kinds of armaments....

[Agayants -- interrupting] Take, for instance, the neutron bomb.

[Lomeyko] Yes, this indeed is a very striking and indicative example. When in 1978 the Carter administration declared its intention to deploy neutron weapons in Western Europe, we remember how this issue stirred up public opinion round the world and particularly in Europe. This forced Washington to think again -- or to reconsider for that moment at least -- since the power of people's anger and protest was so great, these plans were given up at that time. Discussions in Prague will focus on the concrete methods and forms of struggle against missile deployment. I was in West Germany myself recently where I met representatives of various antiwar movements and was told that broad mass protest actions are being planned: picketing of the bases where these weapons are to be deployed, street rallies, sit-in demonstrations; there are even calls for holding a general strike in protest against missile deployment. These are the factors that those in power in the West cannot afford to ignore.

[Kornilov] In any case, they should take these factors into account, if they want to remain in the sphere of real politics.

[Agayants] Here Vladimir Borisovich, an exceptionally important question arises: Just how real is the feeling among representatives of the ruling circles in the West about the threat of nuclear conflict looming over the entire world? Are they trying somehow to avert this conflict, and if so, then by what means?

[Lomeyko] I would like to refer to some personal meetings and conversations I had with Western politicians of various persuasions -- from those of the extreme right, such as Franz Josef Strauss, General Robert Close of Belgium, or General Joseph Luns, NATO secretary general, to those of the extreme left. For the sake of this argument, one can group all political forces in the West into two parties, two camps: there is the party, or camp, of parity, where I have in mind representatives of those ruling circles who understand that conducting affairs with the socialist countries is only possible on the real existing basis of parity. On the other hand, there is the party of superiority, those who consider, as for example the present Reagan administration, that it is possible to conduct affairs with the world of socialism from the position of superiority. I recall in this connection, that at the East-West international meeting of diplomats, scientists and journalists in West Berlin in March this year, the American professor of political science (Paul Zinner) declared frankly: Have no illusions about the Reagan administration. These people will not change their policy and will conduct their harsh course in relation to the socialist countries both now and after Reagan has been reelected.

[Agayants] Yes, Vladimir Borisovich, a whole program of certitudes are contained in this statement: that this course is unalterable, and that Reagan will stand for a second term, and that he will win. I do not think that we need to discuss this aspect of the problem today.

U.S. 'Shameless' Propaganda War

It is much more important to understand the reasons for the exacerbation in the international situation, whether there is any serious opposition to this phenomenon, and what chances there are to maintain peace. The reasons were clearly reiterated at the plenum of the Central Committee of our party, in particular in Comrade Andropov's speech. The balance of forces in the world arena has changed substantially, Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov underlined. And this has in turn been reflected in a sharpening of the struggle between the two world social systems. Socialism is winning by virtue of example. Our opponents are intensifying their attacks and aspiring to substitute psychological warfare for the war of ideas precisely because they recognize the strength of this example and fear it, and want to misrepresent and denigrate this example.

Hence, their double approach: On the one hand, they impose the arms race on the world as a means of achieving military supremacy over the socialist community; on the other hand, attempts are made to blame the USSR and its allies for the exacerbation of the situation and the arms race. It was pointed out at the USSR Supreme Soviet session that the ruling circles of the United States are now carrying out shameless war propaganda, regardless of the fact that it is banned by the United Nations.

[Kornilov] It would be apposite in this connection, Nikolay Ivanovich, to mention that as long ago as November 1947, the second session of the UN General Assembly voted for a resolution -- which was, incidentally, put forward in September of the same year by our country's delegation -- which was titled: On Measures To Be Adopted Against Propaganda for and Instigators of a New War. Here is the text of this resolution, and I quote: With regard to the fact that in the UN Charter the peoples expressed their determination to rid future generations from the calamities of war, which have twice in our time brought inexpressible distress to mankind, and to show tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbors, the General Assembly condemns any form of propaganda conducted in any form, in any country, which is intended or capable of creating or intensifying a threat to peace, disruption of peace, or an act of aggression.

[Lomeyko] Since then 36 years have gone by, but how topical this document sounds today. The representatives of aggressive circles in the West would do well to remember what was said in the resolution in those year and that they are infringing a document for which their predecessors voted.

[Kornilov] You are indeed right, Vladimir Borisovich. The question indeed arises: How can the given resolution be accommodated with the fact that today, war propaganda has essentially become an integral part of American foreign policy in the United States? It is conducted in Washington from the highest official rostrums. It is Washington that is constructing one after the other positively cannibalistic, instigatory concepts -- of preemptive, limited and other nuclear wars for which Europe, according to the American strategists' designs, is to be the bridgehead. The militarist intoxication may be said today to positively penetrate the entire political atmosphere in the United States, where nuclear war is declared to be permissible and even expedient, and where attempts are made to drive into people's heads the idea that such a war is not so terrible. All this is further confirmation that the Washington crusaders, gripped by indefatigable hegemonist ambitions, today regard even the resolution of the UN General Assembly for which the United States itself voted, as you rightly said, as a bit of paper of no significance.

[Agayants] As was noted, with every justification at the USSR Supreme session, Yuriy Emannuilovich, if one takes only the attitudes of the United States and the USSR toward propaganda relating to nuclear war -- after all, it is well-known and it was stressed again most forcefully both at our party's plenum and also at the Surpeme Soviet session that the Soviet Union rejects the very idea of nuclear war as senseless and rejects calls for nuclear war as criminal -- so if one takes only the attitudes of Moscow and Washington toward propagandizing nuclear war, then surely it is clear whose stance on this issue is inhuman and whose stance is humane and in accord with the aspirations of all peoples.

[Lomeyko] This is especially acutely felt in Europe, which the Washington crusaders would like to transform into a nuclear battlefield. Why precisely in Europe? Because it is precisely here that two worlds differing in their socioeconomic structure meet. It is here that the dialectics of the current international situation manifest themselves vividly and acutely. Historical experience and the mutually beneficial nature of East-West economic and cultural cooperation, which was manifested so conspicuously during the years of detente, have intensified the thirst of peoples and countries for peaceful and successful coexistence.

As a result the supporters of the party of superiority both on the other side of the ocean, where they are fearful of losing control of Western Europe, and within the continent itself are even more inveterately kindling anti-Soviet and antisocialist passions. In this respect particular emphasis is now being placed on a display of a love of peace by Reagan and his NATO allies.

[Agayants] Perhaps this is simply a stubborn course aimed at the deployment of the missiles, and at giving West Europeans the idea -- which, although illusory, is needed by the NATO people and is in fact a provocative idea -- to the effect that after the deployment of some of the missiles, Moscow will have no other option than to make concessions.

[Lomeyko] What you say cannot be ruled out, but I do not think anyone will succeed in bamboozling us. In the Soviet Government statement on 28 May, the Soviet Union warned both the Americans and the West Europeans that if NATO attempts by the deployment of missiles to upset the existing balance of forces, the Soviet Union will be forced to take measures to strengthen its own security and that of its allies.

[Kornilov] One should add that this is not our choice. Our country is in favor of the path of agreement, and the path of peace and cooperation, and is reinforcing this standpoint by its actions. Indeed, at the party plenum that has just finished and also at the USSR Supreme Soviet session that Soviet Union once again confirmed its firm desire for peace and put forward important and major peace-loving initiatives. Now the international public is waiting for the other side at last to take up a responsible and constructive position and to display political will so that it will finally be possible in the interests of all peoples in the world to break the vicious circle of the arms race.

[Agayants] Yes, the aim of the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries is not simply to avert war. The CPSU and the Soviet state are striving for a radical improvement in international relations and for the consolidation and development of all good initiatives in these relations.

Here we come to the end of our program. Thank you comrades for your attention. All the best to you.

NATO APPEAL ON ARMS REDUCTION 'MISPLACED'

LD171656 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1522 GMT 17 Jun 83

["START: A Misplaced Appeal" -- TASS Headline]

[Text] Moscow 17 Jun (TASS) -- Military observer Vladimir Bogachev writes: The Brussels meeting of the NATO Council at the permanent representative level approved President Reagan's latest proposal for Soviet-American talks to limit and reduce strategic arms and appealed to the Soviet Union "to respond to them [as received] in the same positive spirit".

Any talks among equal partners are primarily a search for mutually acceptable solutions. The talks on strategic arms are a search for solutions in keeping with the principle of equality and identical security for the sides.

A simple comparison of the USSR's and the U.S.' basic proposals at the Geneva talks shows which of the sides ultimately needs to change its position and to display flexibility that is real and not just for show and to demonstrate good will for the attainment of an agreement.

1. The Soviet Union proposes a substantial reduction -- more than 25 percent -- in the total number of strategic carriers to equal levels on both sides. It also proposes a reduction in the number of nuclear warheads [boyezaryad] to equal, lower levels than at present. So in the case of both carriers and warheads, the Soviet Union is proposing equal, lower levels.

Reagan's latest proposal envisages a radical restructuring of the USSR's strategic forces and the abolition of a huge part of the Soviet land-based ICBM's which now form the basis of the country's defense potential. At the same time, under Reagan's proposal, the United States would gain the opportunity to build up considerably the number of warheads on its ICBM's and to continue implementing programs to step up its own strategic potential. There is not even a whiff of equality in the American proposals.

2. The Soviet Union is putting forward a proposal envisaging reduction in all kinds of strategic weapons (land-based ICBM's, submarine-based missiles and air-based missiles) without exception. This concerns both those where the United States is strong and those where the USSR is strong.

The United States, on the other hand, in trying to disturb the existing parity of strategic forces, insists on the reduction first of all of the land-based ICBM's -- in other words, of those armaments in which the USSR is superior. Reagan's proposal envisages only a cosmetic limitation on submarine-based missiles in which the United States has, in terms of numbers of warheads, a nearly three-fold superiority. The United States wants to "postpone" for an indefinite period the reduction of heavy bombers, in which the Americans have a nearly four-fold superiority in numbers.

3. The Soviet Union has put forward the initiative to freeze, for the duration of the talks, the strategic arsenals of both sides. Furthermore, the USSR is proposing that all nuclear powers should freeze simultaneously all nuclear armaments in their possession, in respect to quantity as well as quality. Such a freeze could enter into force initially with respect to the USSR and the United States from a specific date, subject to coordination, with the understanding that the other nuclear powers would act in an analogous manner.

The United States, on the other hand, is putting forward the absurd thesis of "increasing armaments so that later it would be possible to reduce them". President Reagan himself admitted in a moment of revelation that the U.S. slogan "sounds stupid".

At the START talks the Soviet Union is seeking an honest agreement that will not be prejudicial to one side or the other and will at the same time result in a reduction of their nuclear potentials.

The U.S. stance at these talks is defined by Washington's attempts to undermine in every way the principle of equality and equal security of the sides, and to achieve the military superiority of the United States and the unilateral disarmament of the USSR.

It seems that the NATO appeal to the USSR "to promote progress at the START talks" has obviously been made to the wrong quarters.

COMMENTATOR ASSESSES U.S.-USSR SUMMIT PROSPECTS

LD191152 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 18 Jun 83

["Moscow Viewpoint" by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] A group of Americans visiting this country recently asked me what the thinking is in Moscow about a Soviet-American summit. Since many Americans, including those who are listening, are interested in this question, I would like to respond to it. The answer to the question in general is that the Soviet Union favors any move that can facilitate the solution to the problems facing our countries, the improvement of Soviet-American relations, and especially facilitate a meeting of the leaders of our two countries. If such a meeting is not for propaganda purposes but is geared to a businesslike and constructive dialogue, there can be no opposition to a summit.

But if these talking about a meeting are more interested in it for propaganda or election purposes, the Soviet Union will certainly not agree to participate in anybody's political game. Recently Washington has been sending out feelers regarding a possible Soviet-American summit. I don't know if it is pure coincidence that these statements are becoming more frequent as the presidential election campaign gains momentum. Many American political experts are saying that the position of the superhawks and the warmongers could hurt President Reagan's chances for reelection. The people close to the President do not conceal their concern over Mr Reagan's bad image and so they are trying to do everything to make him more appealing to the largest number of voters.

So that the Soviet-American summit is not used to deceive the American public but to solve complicated political problems good will is required from both sides. As for the Soviet Union, it has good will. I could cite numerous statements by Soviet leaders, statements made by Yuriy Andropov, which demonstrate a desire for constructive and mutually beneficial agreements with the United States and its leaders.

But what about the United States? You be the judge. Can the Soviet people ignore President Reagan's statements that the relationship between the two countries amounts to a struggle between good and evil, between justice and injustice? The United States President not so long ago said the Soviet Union was the focus of evil in the world today and when there is such evil in the world the holy scriptures of Jesus Christ say that every effort should be made to oppose that evil.

These and other similar remarks made by President Reagan are well-known in our country. The prominent American historian and political scientist Professor Arthur Schlesinger, in evaluating this fundamental ideological concept of the head of the United States Administration, recently wrote that if the President is not joking, this concept excludes the very idea of reconciliation and compromise. It excludes the idea of coexistence between the Soviet Union and the United States because how is it possible to compromise or to coexist with evil?

Surely this cannot be a joke. Constant statements of this nature that have been coming from the White House for 2 and 1/2 years indicate that this is a more serious matter. But the question arises: If President Reagan, backing up his view of the modern world with references to Jesus Christ, rejects even the idea of a compromise between the Soviet Union and the United States, then how can he even consider a Soviet-American summit meeting?

Simple logic tells us that if the people in the White House talk about a desire to meet with Soviet leaders, they must visualize themselves sitting down at the negotiation table -- round, oval or oblong, it doesn't matter what kind -- rejecting any compromises and presenting their conditions to the Soviet side as ultimatums.

Obviously such a position is totally unrealistic. The Soviet Union has never allowed and never will permit anyone to talk to it in the language of ultimatums. The Soviet Union does not strive for superiority over the United States, as our leaders have stressed on numerous occasions, and it will not let the United States gain superiority over us.

We in the Soviet Union welcome any meeting between the Soviet and American leadership, but the policy of diktat must not be any part of serious preparations that would require businesslike and serious work to facilitate closer positions of both sides on the most crucial problems, and most important -- to stop the arms race on the basis of equal security. A constructive dialogue between the Soviet Union and the United States is possible. What's more, it is essential, but under only one condition -- the mutual respect and recognition of each other's legitimate interests. The sooner a dialogue on that basis begins, the better it will be for everyone, including the American people.

IMPROVEMENT IN U.S.-USSR RELATIONS DISCOUNTED

LD181247 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 18 Jun 83

[From the "This Week" program presented by Vladimir Pozner]

[Text] Pavel Kuznetsov being on vacation, we now have Yuriy Reshetnikov and his view of the world this week:

High administration officials and the U.S. news media close to official circles have been spreading rumors that Soviet-American relations have lately taken a turn for the better and the two countries are currently engaged in meaningful negotiations. No news would probably be more welcome the world over than to hear that the Soviet-American relations, after a long period of mutual distrust and suspicion, had finally begun to improve. Contrary to those optimistic reports, however, there haven't been any clear-cut indications that this is indeed the case. In fact, it appears that Soviet-American relations have reached one of the lowest points in a generation. Many specialists in particular regard the years of Reagan's tenure as one of protracted tension, shock rhetoric, diplomatic statemate and deep suspicions, that has dimmed the prospects for serious improvement in the near future.

The Reagan administration unilaterally suspended the activities of the official group set up in earlier years to work on a treaty to prevent satellite warfare, limit military presence in the Indian Ocean and terminate all nuclear tests.

Similar fate has befallen cooperative ventures in more peaceful areas. Commissions set up a decade ago to develop exchanges in the fields of science and technology, seismic research, health research and outer space exploration have all been suspended. The chief reason that causes current problems in Soviet-American relations, specifically in arms control, is that the Reagan administration refuses to deal with this country on the basis of equality, both politically and militarily, something that has emerged as an indisputable fact in the postwar period. In Washington, however, they don't reason that way. It is not parity that is on the mind of the Reagan administration, but clear-cut superiority, and upsetting the present East-West balance obviously constitutes the ultimate objective of the American policymakers.

It is towards this goal that a massive arms buildup program has been launched in the West, which concerns primarily nuclear weapons. Over $1.5 trillion will be funneled within 5 years into the project of what is known as rearming America. And America's allies are, of course, expected to follow suit, contributing their bit toward the current arms race.

Despite optimistic appraisals offered by the Washington officials as to the progress of the arms control talks in Geneva, there is so far nothing apparently to feel optimistic about. According to the Soviet foriegn minister, Andrey Gromyko, as he recently stated the case, the Soviet-American talks at Geneva have been hampered by what he called the obstructionist line of the United States Administration. Instead of trying to achieve mutual reductions in our nations' nuclear arsenals, the United States is seeking virtually to disarm this country unilaterally. That is no way to conduct meaningful negotiations. That is a blind alley occupation as far as the Soviet Union is concerned and no amount of optimistic reports is likely to countenance the sorry state of U.S.-Soviet relations.

REAGAN 'UNTRUTHS' IN VIEWING SOVIET POLICY SCORED

PM161341 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 12 Jun 83 First Edition p 5

[Article by Vadim Zagladin under the Rubric "Events and Opinion": "Untruth Is The Tool of Evil" -- capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] The U.S. President makes speeches almost daily. But that's his business. He acts as he thinks fit.

Many people are embarrassed by the form, if you can call it that, and the excessive virtuosity of his speeches. I personally would not chide him for that. Equally, I see nothing to be ashamed of in his actor's past. Nor can I presume to judge the President's world outlook. His views are his views. And although I do not share them at all (I could not put it more mildly), it is impossible to deny him the right to preach the beliefs which he deems acceptable.

What I take great exception to is the fact that in practically every speech the President tells untruths. I don't mean untruths in general, but untruths, and glaring untruths, about my country, about our Soviet motherland.

One could count literally on the fingers of one hand the speeches in which the President has not tried to give his own interpretation of the motives behind Soviet policy, its goals and intentions. In speeches he has discussed in the "freest" possible way our country's international political activity. Sometimes he has even gone so far as to ascribe to the Soviet Union actions which it never performed.

Examples? There are dozens, if not hundreds. I'll just give a few.

The motives behind Soviet policy? They are, if you believe the President, a desire to export revolution, to foist Soviet ideas on other peoples, and to create a "worldwide communist state." The authors of these absurd charges disregard, of course, the fact that communists, including Soviet communists, reject doctrinally the export of revolution. They act on the basis of the simple truth that revolutions are not accomplished to order or by agreement; revolutions occur as a result of the natural development of internal social contradictions in one country or another and attempts to substitute external operations for this development will not get anywhere.

The methods of Soviet policy? The President's speeches which we are concerned with here ascribe to our country "strong-arm" methods, attempts even to use terror to solve international problems! And this despite the fact that THE SOVIET LAND, EVER SINCE IT CAME INTO BEING, HAS ALWAYS SHUNNED STRONG-ARM METHODS IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS. Despite the fact that communists, including Soviet communists, reject terror as a political method. Despite the fact that all recent attempts to demonstrate the contrary have failed miserably!

The content of Soviet policy? As a rule, the U.S. President's speeches reduce it to an insane arms race, to "superarming." And this despite the fact that THE USSR HAS NEVER BEEN IN ITS ENTIRE HISTORY THE FIRST TO CREATE NEW TYPES OF WEAPONS, LEAST OF ALL WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION. Despite the fact that our country, along with the other socialist countries, has, not on dozens but on hundreds of occasions, put forward specific initiatives in favor of disarmament, to many of which the West, in particular the United States, did not get around to responding!

Our state keeps on being charged with violations of international treaties which it did not commit, above all treaties relating to limiting the arms race. The authors of the speeches we are talking about are not bothered by the fact that literally every time these accusations are refuted on a factual basis, primarily by U.S. experts themselves. Here is the latest example: The President said recently that the Russians are carrying out underground nuclear weapon tests which exceed the power limits laid down by the 1974 treaty. But there was an immediate reply first from the geophysicists of Columbia and Colorado Universities and then by scientists from the U.S. geophysical administration. They stated that the USSR had not violated its commitments.

Our country is also charged with breaking its own word and promises. Several times the President has maintained that despite its moratorium on the deployment of medium-range missiles, the USSR continues to deploy them. He has "failed to notice" that our moratorium applied to Europe alone and that since it was announced, our country has not in fact deployed a single medium-range missile either in our continent or in parts of Asia from where the missiles could reach the territory of West European countries. And as in the previous case, this has been confirmed more than once by competent U.S. experts.

Shall I go on? I could, but I don't think it's necessary! The picture is clear: The President has described Soviet foreign policy from various angles. But in each case he has grossly distorted the true face of our country and the nature of its policy.

What is the reason for this?

Perhaps he is ignorant of the truth. Perhaps the advisers are to blame for giving the President false information? Or maybe (and this is the worst of the hypotheses) we are faced with a deliberate distortion of the real state of affairs? The future will show what the actual situation is....

Ordinary human logic indicates that an untruth is used to conceal some unpleasant truth or, at least, to distract attention from it. So if one considers all the charges made against us, if one takes a closer look at them, one quite easily reaches the conclusion that in this case untruths are being used to conceal what is in fact the rather unpleasant truth about actual U.S. foreign policy. Since:

It is the United States -- and its leadership is quite plain about this -- which has set its sights on achieving world hegemony and imposing its views and concepts on the whole of mankind;

It is the United States which is "exporting counterrevolution" on a massive scale (just take Nicaragua and El Salvador!);

It is the United States which is overtly gearing its policy to the use of strong-arm tactics, to the pursuit of a "position of strength" policy;

It is the United States which is pursuing, in an effort to gain military superiority, a course toward "superarmament," toward the development and creation of new military means, above all, weapons of mass destruction;

It is the United States which is displaying astonishing disregard for treaties and other international pledges it has signed, whether in politics or in commerce;

It is the United States, and not the USSR, which has used chemical and bacteriological weapons on a wide scale and is currently making plain its intention to continue to produce and use them (once again in violation of its international pledges).

This, therefore, is why it needed the untruths about the Soviet Union! But words will not conceal the horrible truth about the real "yellow rain" which fell in Vietnam and to which a multitude of U.S. soldiers as well as the citizens of that heroic country fell victim....

One may ask: What in fact is the point of this mountain of untruth about our country? Does it help to keep from the world public the real nature of U.S. international policy? To put it bluntly, not a lot! For although the fables about our country are spread far and wide by U.S. information services, the peoples encounter not only the fables but also the realities of policies -- Soviet and U.S. policies. And they learn from their own experience to distinguish truth from untruth. Knowledge which, as is known, is not wasted....

Of course, the spreading of untruths about the Soviet Union and its policy does leave some trace. It would be absurd to deny that some of these untruths take root in some minds. It would be equally absurd to disregard the fact that these untruths are casting a serious shadow on relations between the USSR and the United States.

...History has shown many times that lies have always been not only an instrument of cold, psychological war, but also a means, a method of preparing, for an actual, "hot" war. Therefore, one must always fight actively and vigorously against all forms of untruth. This is absolutely essential in the interests of improving the international climate, in the interests of peace.

As for our country, it adopts a serious and deliberate approach to relations with the United States. We want to have a true picture of that great country, as it really is -- with all its obviously positive and equally obviously negative aspects. This approach is dictated by a sense of great responsibility for the destiny of our own people and for the whole of mankind. "The course toward peaceful coexistence, toward the development of equal, mutually advantageous and, even better, good-neighborly relations with the United States is the main line of our policy," Yuriy Vladimorovich Andropov, general secretary of our party's Central Committee, said in conversation with the eminent U.S. political figure A. Harriman.

"Americans and Soviet people and peoples in other countries as well will benefit from the normalization of relations and their development on an equal basis."

But it needs more than one side's efforts to ensure that this course prevails. Purposeful steps must be taken by both sides. First of all, of course, any prejudice in our approach to one another must be eliminated and untruths about the other side must be excluded.

For if untruth is a means [oruzhiye] of preparing for war, truth and objectivity are undoubtedly definite prerequisites for strengthening peaceful relations between peoples.

TEST LAUNCH OF MX MISSILE IN U.S. CONDEMNED

LD181837 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 18 Jun 83

[Text] The United States has carried out the first test launch of the intercontinental ballistic missile MX. A commentary from Viktor Olin of Radio Moscow:

The giant strategic missile, 21 meters long, was launched from the Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, and having covered about 8,000 km, reached its target near the Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific. The flight took roughly 30 minutes, and that is as much as it is necessary to reach targets on Soviet territory. It is expected that during further tests of the MX missile, 20 more launches will be made. The last one is scheduled for 1987, after as many as 100 MX missiles are already deployed in the states of Nebraska and Wyoming.

The preparations for the first launch were very hasty and the missile was launched despite faults in the backup computer that should have controlled the missile if it had veered off course. But taking the risk, the administration pursued primarily political goals, since the U.S. Congress is to debate and vote shortly on allocating $2.5 billion for the MX program. The entire cost of the program is $26 billion. The successful demonstration of the missile, the administration believes, will help it persuade the (?vacillating) congressmen and to overcome opposition in Congress, which at the end of last year blocked allocations for the MX program.

Washington officials make no secret of the fact they are still concerned about the destiny of the program, the purpose of which is to ensure a strategic advantage over the USSR. In a bid to weaken the opposition by critics of the program, and to get the funds to carry out the test, President Reagan promised to take a more flexible stand at the talks with the USSR on strategic armaments. Only after having won approval in Congress did he give details of this stand which outlined the former concept of military superiority but in a different form. And so, the first launch of the MX missile has taken place.

It was carried out in violation of the SALT-II Treaty between the United States and the Soviet Union. The treaty provides for informing each other about holding such tests. Washington failed to do so, explaining the way it has acted by considerations of secrecy. However, one can assume that the test launch of the MX missile was intended to impress the Soviet Union primarily. It should signify a negative answer to the proposal made just before that by the Soviet Union to the other four nuclear powers to agree about a freeze of nuclear arsenals as a way to curb and turn back the nuclear arms race. By making a secret of the date of the launch the U.S. administration also tried to prevent further demonstrations in its own country against the new missiles, for a freeze.

But there have been more demonstrations all the same. Near the Vandenberg base, the police have arrested tens of demonstrators. All in all, more than 8,000 participants in protest actions have been arrested so far this year.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS PETITION PRESENTED TO REAGAN

LD171034 Moscow TASS in English 0746 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Text] Washington June 17 TASS -- TASS corespondent Nikolay Pakhomov reports:

The White House ceremony was definitely spoiled. One of its participants, departing from the official scenario, prepared beforehand by the President's aides, criticized the rabid militarism of the present Washington administration.

...A large group of high-school graduates who distinguished themselves in studies were invited to a ceremony to be presented with special presidential awards. When President Reagan was preparing to appear before the high schools students to make a pompous speech, Ariela Gross, 17, of Princeton, New Jersey, asked for a brief audience with the President and handed him a petition demanding a nuclear weapons freeze. The petition was signed by a number of other students who, like Ariela, are deeply concerned by Washington's policy of confrontation and war preparation.

But the most unpleasant thing for the sponsors of the ceremony occurred when Ariela told correspondents, at their request, about her meeting with Reagan.

She told pressmen that she said she thought "it was terrifying we were talking about strategies for a nuclear war." She said it was still more terrifying to hear from the President what she had heard from him more than once on the television. He regarded the stockpiling of nuclear weapons as the way to reduce them.

Ariela Gross criticized also the "hawks" in Congress who meet the administration's requests for developing ever new types of deadly weapons. The girl said she was ashamed for those American leaders who voted for the most dangerous and costly missile systems ever suggested.

It was earlier this month that Ariela told about her plans to hand to the President a petition condemning the arms race. She was immediately threatened by the authorities. A high-ranking spokesman for the Department of Education phoned her and threatened her to deprive her of presidential scholarship. Attempts were also made to influence the girl's parents. But inasmuch as this story received publicity the White House did not dare deny Ariela an audience with the President.

SOVIET MEDIA FOCUSES ON USSR-PRC NORMALIZATION

Press Said Distorting Problem

PM181921 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Jun 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by TASS political observer M. Yakovlev: "From Unfriendly Positions"]

[Text] The Chinese information media are continuing to cultivate in the country and spread in the international arena malignant assessments and misrepresentations of the Soviet Union's foreign policy. Many attributes of anti-Sovietism are continuing to be used for this.

The theses of Soviet "hegemonism" "the Soviet military threat," and the USSR's "responsibility" for the exacerbation of international tension and the intensification of the arms race remain the central theme. Here the policy of the Soviet Union, which is making tremendous efforts to curb the arms race and avert a world nuclear war, is equated with Washington's aggressive militarist course.

In the wake of imperialist propaganda the Chinese press is fueling in every possible way the fabrication of the Soviet Union's aspiration for "military supremacy," although Beijing well knows the Soviet position, which upholds the principle of equality and identical security. In defiance of the facts, the newspaper RENMIN RIBAO recently alleged that the Soviet Union's course at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva consists of "preserving its nuclear superiority" in Europe.

Copying Western propaganda models on this question, the Chinese press has recently been daily cramming its readers with a thick collection of fabrications about the situation in Afghanistan, attempting in particular to prove that the Soviet Union is only professing to favor a political settlement and to ascribe to our country the intention of "occupying" that country. On familiarizing oneself with "information" of this kind it is difficult to escape the impression that its authors are ignoring the Afghan people's real interests and want just one thing -- to torpedo the perceptible process of the normalization of the situation in the region.

The Soviet Union's policy with regard to Vietnam and the other countries of Indochina is the subject of constant attacks. Chinese propaganda is distorting its essence, evidently for the sake of claiming the right to interfere in the USSR's relations with those countries. It is virtually demanding that the Soviet Union abandon its support for the just cause of the struggle of these countries' peoples against imperialism and hegemonism and for a quest for mutually acceptable ways to normalize relations among all the states of the Southeast Asia region.

The Chinese press contrives to cover even events in Latin America in terms of rivalry between the two "superpowers" and anti-Sovietism, going to literally absurd lengths. On 28 May the newspaper HEILONGJIANG RIBAO published a XINHUA item alleging that "to reinforce its armed forces in the Western Hemisphere the Soviet Union wants to build a canal across Nicaragua in order to have a route for Soviet warships in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans." And such things are being published at the very moment that the American Administration is openly organizing an invasion of Nicaraguan territory by mercenary gangs of counterrevolutionaries!

An important place in the campaign of vilification of the USSR's policy and positions is allotted to items about Soviet-Chinese relations, which have recently been following a single stereotype: The PRC's desire to normalize relations with the Soviet Union is stated, which is then followed by accusations against the USSR of intractability, reluctance to eliminate so-called "obstacles," and the "Soviet threat to China."

These items end with a particular refrain declaring China's "principled struggle" against Soviet "hegemonism." This kind of coverage by the Chinese press of the question of normalizing relations between the USSR and the PRC is an attempt to present the very problem of Soviet-Chinese normalization in a distorted light and cast a shadow over the USSR's policy toward China, which the Soviet Union has never threatened and does not threaten. The facts testify that whereas Soviet mass information organs are striving to create a favorable atmosphere for the normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations, the same can in no way be said about the Chinese press.

No Obstacles Seen

OW190849 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1430 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Text] Recently, certain foreign groups have been trying again to distort Soviet policy toward China. They claim that the Soviet Union has no intention of removing the obstacles to the normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations. They draw the conclusion that the Soviet Union should be held responsible for the still-strained relations between the Soviet Union and China, and they assert this idea emphatically. Please listen now to our station commentator Glebov's comment on this distortion:

Today, even the reactionary activists in the West, who took great pleasure in showing off their anti-Sovietism, dare not assert that the Soviet Union is hostile toward China. This situation is as it should be. The reason is that any false claim concerning Soviet hostility greatly contradicts widely known facts that show that the Soviet Union has, for some time, done its best to achieve the normalization of relations between the Soviet Union and China.

Take, for example, the proposals contained in the 1978 USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium letter to the Chinese NPC Standing Committee. In this letter, the Soviet Union appealed to China to issue a joint statement on the principles of relations between the USSR and the PRC. The Soviet side proposed that these principles should be peaceful coexistence, equality, mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, and the nonuse of force. What are the obstacles that stand in the way of putting our state-to-state relations on the basis of these principles of good-neighborliness? It must be pointed out that these principles are, according to the Chinese official pronouncement, the very foundation of China's policy toward other countries. Besides, as is widely known, the Soviet Union has never made territorial claims on China. In short, if we speak frankly and reasonably, obstacles standing in the way of improving Soviet-Chinese relations do not actually exist.

However, it will be a different matter if obstacles are artificially imposed. Here I refer to the requirement for a fundamental change in Soviet policy toward a third country as a precondition for the normalization of relations between the Soviet Union and China. For instance, the Soviet Union was asked to stop its internationalist assistance to the Afghan people, who are defending their national sovereignty and the fruits of their revolution. How can this relationship between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan, two sovereign countries, have any bearing on the normalization of relations between the Soviet Union and China?

The Soviet Union, for its part, will try its best to turn Soviet-Chinese relations back to the path of true neighborliness. Gromyko, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and foreign minister, reiterated this at a regular USSR Supreme Soviet session. He said: As before, the Soviet Union comes out for normalizing relations with the PRC on the basis of reciprocity, and of seeking opportunities to gradually expand bilateral ties and contacts.

We stand for continuing the Soviet-Chinese political consultations that have begun and we would like for them to lead to positive results. We are convinced that normalization and improvement of relations between the two countries is in accordance with the cardinal interests of the peoples of both countries.

Normalization Soviet Policy

OW200815 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1230 GMT 19 Jun 83

[Sergeyev article from the "Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association" program]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet have pointed out in their documents that, under the current situation, the strengthening of unity and cooperation among socialist countries is the main direction of the CPSU and the Soviet state. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said at the CPSU plenum that the USSR stands for friendship with all socialist countries, including the People's Republic of China.

Soviet people believe that the normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations is very important, and that the normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations is a vital aspect of the foundation for the consolidation of peace and stability in Asia and the world.

There is no reason why the Soviet and Chinese peoples should be alienated from one another. On the contrary, the fundamental interests of the two peoples are identical. For a long period of time, the Soviet people supported the Chinese people in their struggle for national and social liberation. After the founding of the PRC, the Soviet and Chinese peoples were united by their common goal and ideal: to reform and develop socialism on the basis of socialist principles. The USSR did its best to assist the Chinese people to consolidate (?their political power), and the USSR and China struggled together for peace and against imperialism. With concerted actions, our two countries crushed the imperialists' scheme of opposing the cause of peace and progress.

The USSR should not be blamed for the deterioration of Soviet-Chinese relations. Since the deterioration of Soviet-Chinese relations, the CPSU and the Soviet Government have always advocated the normalization of relations between the two countries. The USSR's China policy was set by the 24th, 25th and 26th CPSU Congresses held in 1971, 1976 and 1981, respectively. Documents issued by the 26th CPSU Congress pointed out that the improvement of Soviet-Chinese relations conforms with the two peoples' fundamental and long-range interests, and to the interests of socialism, the people's happiness, and the strengthening of peace. This (?policy) was reaffirmed by the CPSU Central Committee plenum held in November 1982, and it was again reaffirmed by the just-concluded CPSU plenum and the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Gromyko, first vice chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers and Soviet foreign minister, said at the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet that the USSR still advocates the normalization of relations with the PRC and stands for seeking opportunities to gradually expand bilateral ties on a reciprocal basis. We support the continuation of the political consultations between the USSR and PRC, which have already begun, and we hope that these consultations will be successful. We firmly believe that the normalization and improvement of Soviet-Chinese relations fully accords with the two peoples' fundamental interests. The Soviet people unanimously support this principled and consistent policy toward China adopted by the CPSU and the Soviet Government.

PRC'S NPC ELECTS PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT

LD181258 Moscow TASS in English 1245 GMT 18 Jun 83

[Text] Beijing June 18 TASS -- Today's meeting of the first session of the sixth National People's Congress of China has elected the member of the Permanent Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China Li Xiannian to the post of China's president. The member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China Ulanhu was elected deputy president. The member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China Peng Zhen became chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1500 GMT on 18 June carries a similar report which at this point adds: "Deng Xiaoping has become chairman of the PRC Central Military Commission. On the proposal of the chairman of the PRC, the session of the all-Chinese National People's Congress adopted a decision to reappoint Zhao Ziyang as premier of the State Council."]

COMMENTATOR ASKS PRC TO HELP CURB ARMS RACE

OW180643 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Mulatov commentary: "The Only Clear-cut Method for the Prevention of Nuclear Confrontation"]

[Text] In the past few days, newspapers and journals of various nations in the world have extensively commented on the documents of the plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet held in Moscow. In our programs, we have already reported that the plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet adopted important resolutions to strengthen measures for peace and against imperialist aggression.

General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Andropov said: "We firmly believe that socialism will ultimately prove its advantages precisely in conditions of peaceful competition with capitalism. And we by no means advocate competition in the military field, which imperialism is foisting on us." Adhering to this proposal and its foreign policy, the Soviet Union has strengthened its determination to uphold peace and prevent a nuclear arms race launched by imperialism.

The following is a commentary by our station observer Mulatov in this regard, entitled The Only Clearcut Method for the Prevention of Nuclear Confrontation":

To stop increasing nuclear weapons, actually begin to reduce nuclear arms, and ultimately eliminate nuclear weaponry is the common aspiration of all peoples throughout the world, no matter where they live or what kind of social and political system they have. The new Soviet foreign policy and proposal have opened up a road toward this great and lofty goal. This proposal was included in the resolution adopted by the USSR Supreme Soviet session on 16 June this year -- "On the International Situation and the Soviet Union's Foreign Policy." This document says: "The USSR Supreme Soviet charges the Soviet Government to address a proposal to the Governments of the United States of America, Great Britain, France and the People's Republic of China for a simultaneous qualitative and quantitative freeze by all nuclear powers of all nuclear armaments possessed by them. Such a freeze could enter into force first with regard to the Soviet Union and the United States from a certain date, subject to agreement, implying that the other nuclear powers would act in a similar way."

This proposal by our nation's supreme organ of state power reflects not only the will and interests of the Soviet people and the peoples of other socialist nations, but also the needs of the times. That is, to stop the arms race, give the peoples of various nations confidence in their futures and consolidate the foundation for peaceful coexistence among countries with different social systems.

The Soviet Union has already worked out a well-considered measure which can be easily implemented. It should be emphatically pointed out: The Soviet Union believes that a freeze by all nuclear powers of all nuclear armaments possessed by them should become the foundation for the reduction and the ultimate destruction of all nuclear armaments in the future. That is the only feasible method to do away with the nuclear confrontation which has made all mankind feel extremely tense. Eliminating the vicious circle in the nuclear arms race is not only the obligation and responsiblity of the Soviet Union, but also those of all the nuclear powers.

In the face of the imperialist strategy of nuclear confrontation which may bring about disastrous consequences for all the peoples in the world, our nation is following a principle aimed at eliminating the nuclear menace. This principle has been further augmented by our important new proposal to all the nuclear powers, including China. Without doubt, China is able to make due contributions to opposing the imperialist line to promote the nuclear arms race.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON POPE'S VISIT TO POLAND

Jaruzelski Meets Pope

LD171435 Moscow TASS in English 1431 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Text] Warsaw June 17 TASS -- The Polish news agency PAP reports that Wojciech Jaruzelski, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, met with Pope John Paul the Second, the head of the Roman Catholic Church, in Belweder Palace today. They had a conversation.

Basic Concern Work, Not Pope

LD181706 Moscow in Polish to Poland 1400 GMT 18 Jun 83

[From the "Facts and Commentaries" program; unidentified correspondent's report from Warsaw]

[Excerpts] In Poland it is being pointed out, that in the past few days and even whole weeks, Western mass media have reduced all material about Poland or indirectly connected it to one question, which is in essence: Will the Pope meet Walesa or not? In an artificially (?heightened) atmosphere, it is suggested that this is the one burning problem for millions of Poles.

Things are in fact totally different. The millions of working people in Poland, at work and in their thoughts, are concerned with something else completely. They want to get their country out of the crisis in which it has found itself mainly as a result of the actions hostile to their basic interests undertaken by antisocialist forces, which have actively incited and stirred up actions from abroad to the present.

By their own work, Polish workers are restoring normal production rhythms in the factories. Thanks to this, many branches of industry are already at the 1979 level, that is the year before the crisis, and in a series of important cases this level has even been exceeded. Millions of people want this and are doing it in their own interest, which is concurrent with the interests of the people's socialist state. All this is the living reality of Poland today. This reality (?can be seen) by every objective observer.

This cannot be said, however, about those in the West who effusively declare friendship for the Poles, but whose actions, ineffective in any case, have been aimed at imposing the noose of an economic blockade in Poland; who, through the broadcasting stations of the U.S. CIA, in the form of Radio Free Europe, give instructions to the antisocialist conspiracy on how to provoke disturbances, organize subversion in factories, and terrorize people (?who have not yet become fully conscious of their standpoint). In a word, how to disrupt the process of stabilization in Poland.

The significance of the concern for Poland shown by Washington and some other Western capitals is clear enough. For them, as TRYBUNA LUDU has rightly pointed out. A Poland which can be used to aggravate relations between East and West is a good Poland. From their point of view, this will be a kind of alibi for the deployment of hundreds of new U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe which will be targeted on Polish towns and countryside as well.

IZVESTIYA HITS POLISH ANTI-SOVIET PUBLICATIONS

PM192014 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Jun 83 Morning Edition p 5

[N. Yermolovich article: "An Entry Ticket to History"]

[Text] The Poles love their history. They relive it again and again, and are ready at a moment's notice to resurrect old disputes and the struggle of now defunct parties over problems which have lost all topicality. But the Poles, more than any other nation, are ignorant of their history. They are quite content with legends. Since in Poland one does not need to know history. In Poland, one believes in history, or does not....

Those are the words of Zbigniew Zaluski, written in the early sixties. The words of a communist, a frontliner and a writer in a book of reflections on the place of his contemporaries in the succession of generations and on the efforts and achievements which served as an ENTRY TICKET to their HISTORY.

One of the most illustrious of those deeds which required profound ideological conviction and political insight, total and utter selflessness, was the creation on our country's territory in 1943 of the League of Polish Patriots and its offspring, the Polish People's Army.

...My memory takes me back 40 years, to a station at a railway junction. In those early years of war, the very sight of those people seemed to be a focus of the miseries of war and the people's grief. The long lines waiting by the long dry faucet-barrier, the cries of the women, the silence of the old people, the wailing of the children... and the many trains. Those taking troops, tanks and ammunition to the front. Those taking evacuees and the overflowing medical trains going in the other direction.... there was fierce fighting, the Germans were rushing toward the Caucasus and Stalingrad.

Station life was continuing. And suddenly, its continuous hubbub ceased; everyone, as though on command, turned toward one of the tracks. A train was approaching the platform in a slow and stately manner. It was no ordinary troop train. It was as though it was from some impossibly remote prewar time -- entire passenger cars, intact and clean. And the passengers! Unusual people with spic and span uniforms and the cold glint of silver braid. Well-groomed people, with immaculate hair and with boots that shone like glass. There were many women also in uniform. Young women wearing makeup. Staff personnel, clearly. A way was soon cleared for them. Picking up speed, the train set off away from the front. From the open window of the last carriage came a langorous Polish tango which lingered in the ears.

The station returned to its usual cares. But a knowledgeable old man, spitting at the latest delay, shouted angrily to the children huddled around him: "Anders' army...."

In July 1941 General W. Sikorski's Polish government-in-exile in London established diplomatic relations with the Soviet Government. The sides reached agreement on cooperation in the struggle against Hiterlite Germany and on the formation of an army under the command of General Wladyslaw Anders from those Poles located on our territory. When they had achieved combat readiness, they were to have been sent without delay to the Soviet-German front. The USSR Government granted the Polish government-in-exile a loan of R300 million to accelerate and facilitate the army's formation.

Anders' headquarters in Buzuluk was visited by Janina Broniewska, a writer and later an active figure in the League of Polish Patriots in the USSR. Her visit, incidentally, was made on IZVESTIYA's instructions. Here is how she subsequently described her impressions:

"The allies' flags flew over the Anders' army headquarters building. Even in the entrance hall, I felt uneasy for some reason. It was just like a prewar barracks. There was a loud clicking of heels... then dancing began. They were colonel diplomats, pillars of salon society. Their refined courtesy, polished words were combined with endless assurances that they rated the Soviet press highly. 'Brotherhood in Arms,' 'The Great Soviet Ally.' The overwhelming striving to go to the 'local front'..."

A few days later, Broniewska interviewed General Anders at the Polish embassy in Kuybyshev. The interview was intended for foreign readers. Poles have many shortcomings, but they are no traitors! Anders said with solemn insight. The general said many more fine words and ended in the same vein: I shall not be happy until the day that I sign my first operational order on that front.

Anders did not sign a single order on that front. A few months later he led the Polish Army out. Not to the Soviet-German front but to Iran -- away from Soviet soil, hiding behind the need for a "second front" which was not opened for a long time...

Journalists would write that the reasons for that action were complex. The general's personal ambitions were intertwined, it is said, with the complex game and struggle among various political forces in the international arena and with the intrigue conducted mainly by the British. But desertion is always desertion, whatever the motives. The honest soldiers striving to join the fray against the German invaders as quickly as possible were opposed by the rabid class enemies of Soviet power in Anders' army. It was they at Krosnovodsk who before embarkation (and in view of the wounded from Stalingrad) made bonfires out of whatever they could not take with them.

Anders' army had gone. But many thousands of Poles remained, scattered about the vast expanses of the Soviet land. There remained a sense of bitterness, shame and disappointment... And then Polish communists made their considerable contribution and together with them, all honest patriots who valued their people and the fate of their fatherland.

"In the sea of the events of that time, the Polish affair was just one of many -- but not an insignificant one. When the fate of the Soviet Union was being decided, the fate of the entire world was being decided as well and, above all, that of the Soviet Union's closest neighbors. Poland's existence depends on the Soviet Army's victory over fasism; and Poland's future -- whether a state of capitalists and landowners hostile to the Soviet Union such as prewar Poland was, would rise again across the Bug or whether it would be a new, democratic state, living in friendship and alliance with the peoples of the Soviet Union -- depending on the efforts, labor and struggle of Poles themselves."

These words of the writer Wanda Wasilewska are, in a very generalized form, the political program of the Polish "left" in the Soviet land. The first Congress of the League of Polish Patriots in the USSR was convened in Moscow on 9 June 1943 on the basis of that program. And the formation of the Tadeusz Kosciuszko 1st Polish Infantry Division began in the Selets camps near Ryazan. The division's banner bore the slogan which has always united Polish and Russian revolutionaries: "For your freedom and ours!" And on those banners the ancient Piast eagle looked quite different.

...The polish newspaper published in the USSR immediately after the establishment of diplomatic relations between the W. Sikorski government and the Soviet Government carried an article entitled "Dream About a Sword." Anders sullied the sword entrusted to him with indelible disgrace. It was the Kosciuszko Division and then the Polish 1st Rrmy, created on Soviet territory which had to restore its honor.

That sword was a formidable weapon. When the Polish 1st Army crossed the river Bug, its arsenal included 61,626 rifles and submachineguns, 3,714 machineguns and antitank guns, 1,513 guns and mortars and 217 tanks, self-propelled mountings and armored cars. That formidable equipment was mainly Soviet-made. Thousands of Soviet officers were detached to train cadres in the Polish Army which firmly rejected the caste and nationalist spirit of the old officer crops.

What a hard time it was for us then -- the spring of 1943. The very hard battle of Stalingrad had only just ended. And the battle of the Kursk salient still lay ahead. The rear literally did without everything. Nonetheless, the Soviet Government considered it possible to render the Poles aid. Polish servicemen were supplied with everything necessary, over 100 schools were organized for Polish children with instruction in their native language. I do not even mention what came later -- the saving of Krakow and other Polish cities, the liberation of the concentration camp inmates...

So can all that be forgotten? It turns out that it can. "The annihilation of 6,018,000 Polish citizens -- Poles and Jews, in almost equal proportions -- by the German and Soviet occupiers brought Polish society to the brink of biological destruction." What truly bestial hatred you must nurture toward everything Soviet to dare to cast such monstrous aspersions on our heroic people and compare them to the Hitlerite scum! And of course, it is perfectly logical that the publishers of all this malicious rubbish should be some "Jozef Pilsudski Public Institute of National Remembrance" (?! - N. Ye.) in Gdansk. The year of publication is 1981.

We remember what absolutely frantic speed was manifested by so-called experts from "Solidarity" who hastily prepared their plan for reshaping school syllabuses and history textbooks. A great deal was rained down on young immature heads at that time, misleading them, exciting them, infecting them with nihilism and creating a feeling in whose atmosphere the most poisonous seeds could grow. I am far from the idea of drawing a direct line between the worshippers of Pilsudski and Anders and the descrators of Soviet servicemen's tombs in Poland, but the fact that the troubled wave of anti-Sovietism brought such renegades to the surface 2 years ago is irrefutable. Yes, one must believe in history. But it is even more important to know it. And to know how to derive lessons from it.

POLAND REJECTS FRANCE'S INTERFERENCE

LD171337 Moscow TASS in English 1214 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Text] Warsaw June 17 TASS -- As the commissioner of the Polish Government for the press said, the Polish Government rejects the attempts to France at interfering in the home affairs of the Polish People's Republic. The Polish spokesman made this statement in connection with the recent speech in the French Parliament by Claude Cheysson, French external relations minister, who made an unfriendly statement against Poland. It is surprising, the Polish spokesman said, that the Government of France actively supports the aggressive policy of the U.S. Administration towards Poland, thus causing damage to Polish-French relations.

SOVIET HELICOPTER CRASHES ON GDR BORDER

LD161542 Hamburg DPA in German 1452 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Excerpts] Eichenberg/Kassel, 16 Jun (DPA) -- A Soviet helicopter crashed on Thursday at the intra-German border near Eichenberg (Werra-Meissner District) on GDR territory and went up in flames. The machine, apparently an MI-24, was presumably occupied by three Soviet soldiers who probably did not survive the crash. The accident took place at about 1330. This was confirmed by the Federal Border Protection Force central command in Kassel in response to questions. The spot of the crash is about 200 meters over the border. Flashes and detonations after the crash indicated that ammunition in the burning wreck exploded.

KOHL, GENSCHER TO VISIT USSR 'EARLY JULY'

LD192336 Moscow TASS in English 1950 GMT 19 Jun 83

[Text] Moscow June 20 TASS -- Federal Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany Helmut Kohl and deputy frederal chancellor, Foreign Affairs Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher will visit the Soviet Union early in July this year at the invitation of the Soviet leadership.

PROSPECTS FOR NORDIC NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE DEBATED

Sweden's Palme Cited

PM160925 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jun 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by correspondent A. Ryzhnikov: "For Nuclear-Free Zones in Europe"]

[Text] Copenhagen -- Olof Palme, prime minister of neutral Sweden, delivered a report on the creation of nuclear-free zones in Europe at a plenary session of the North Atlantic Assembly held in the Danish capital.

He noted, in particular, that European security can be safeguarded only through of the reduction of nuclear arsenals. In this connection the prime minister expressed the hope that "new nuclear weapons" would not be deployed in Europe and that agreement would be reached on a substantial reduction in all nuclear and conventional types of weapons on the continent.

The speaker further noted that an important step on the path of the consolidation of the security of the peoples of all European countries would be the creation of a nuclear-free zone in north Europe. That is why, O. Palme said, the statement made by Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at his 6 June meeting in Moscow with Finnish President M. Koivisto to the effect that the Soviet Union is prepared to examine the question of several measures, and substantial ones at that, with regard to its own territory adjacent to the zone which would promote the consolidation of its nuclear-free status and also to discuss with interested parties the question of giving nuclear-free status to the Baltic sea -- this statement cannot fail to cause great satisfaction.

Lively debates are also now underway, the Swedish prime minister said, over the Swedish government's proposal to create a zone free of theatre nuclear weapons. The speaker noted that this proposal has already been supported by the Warsaw Pact states and positively assessed by the neutral and nonaligned countries. The NATO reaction to Sweden's proposal, O. Palme noted, was critical, however, although Greece, for instance, treated positively the proposal to create a "nuclear-free corridor in central Europe."

In conclusion the prime minister expressed the hope that the Madrid meeting would end successfully and would reach agreement on convening a conference on confidence-building measures and security and disarmament in Europe which O. Palme said, could be held in Stockholm.

The very fact that Olof Palme was invited to the assembly is evidence that the proposals to create nuclear-free zones in Europe are increasingly attracting the attention of the European public. This obviously alarms the NATO strategists.

That is why on the same day the North Atlantic Assembly session participants were addressed by FRG Defense Minister M. Woerner. His speech abounded in NATO propaganda slogans from start to finish. He defended the NATO so-called "twin-track decision" with regard to the deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclar missiles in West Europe and opposed the creation of nuclear-free zones in Europe.

PRAVDA Report

PM161127 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Jun 83 First Edition p 4

[Own Correspondent M. Kostikov dispatch under the rubric "Disarmament Is the Order of the Day": "Nuclear-Free North: An Urgent Task"]

[Text] Helsinki, June -- The Soviet-Finnish talks held in Moscow last week gave fresh impetus to the cause of creating a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe. The proposal expressed by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on discussing with interested parties the question of granting the Baltic nuclear-free status has received a broad response. The Soviet Union has clearly shown that it not only supports the idea of removing nuclear weapons from northern Europe but is also prepared to promote the implementation of that idea.

"To proclaim the north, a nuclear-free zone would considerably stabilize the situation of all the states in that part of the globe. That would completely protect the Nordic countries from any speculation created by the development of nuclear strategy and would guarantee that international tension would not spread to this zone..."

Those words were spoken in Helsinki over 2 decades ago. They were the words of Finnish President U.K. Kekkonen who subsequently put that idea forward on many occasions. Although proposals on the creation of nuclear-free zones in various parts of the world had been made before, when applied to northern Europe they attracted particularly great attention from social and political circles. The Soviet Union and other socialist countries clearly expressed a positive attitude to the idea in question.

The CSCE opened up broad horizons for its implementation. But then, on the verge of the 1980's, the aggressive forces of imperialism, primarily U.S. imperialism, decided to kill off detente. The most sinister manifestation of that course was NATO's notorious "twin-track decision" geared toward the deployment in Western Europe of nearly 600 U.S. nuclear missiles.

At first glance it might seem that the threat of the appearance of new U.S. medium-range weapons on the European continent does not directly affect the Nordic countries since it is a question of plans to deploy them in the FRG, Britain, Belgium, the Netherlands and Italy. However, as U.K. Kekkonen warned in the past, cruise missiles, "unlike existing ICBM's, could turn the use of the air space of states not involved in the conflict and of neutral states into an everyday matter."

The grounds for such fears are quite clear. It is proposed to install bases for the Pershing-II and cruise missiles in the immediate vicinity of the Nordic countries. The flight path of the U.S. cruise missiles, capable of flying at a height of a few dozen meters, would pass, were they to be launched, over the territory not just of the Scandinavian members of NATO but also over neutral Sweden and of Finland, which belongs to no bloc. When you take into account the fact that the destructive power of just one warhead of such a missile is dozens of times greater than that of the bombs dropped on Hiroshima, the alarm gripping the north Europeans is understandable.

The broad antiwar movement launched throughout Europe finds expression in the Nordic countries in the appeal to declare this region a nuclear weapon-free zone. The slogan "Make the North a Nuclear-Free Zone!" is being heard here increasingly persistently. The countries of northern Europe have surely not known such a broad-scale peace offensive since the time of the Stockholm Appeal in the early 1950's. Already over 2.5 million Swedes, Finns, Danes and Norwegians have signed the appeal "For a Nuclear-Free North."

There is hardly one party or politician in the Nordic countries yet to determine their attitude toward the question of a nuclear-free north. Virtually no government meeting, be it regional or bilateral, passes without a discussion of this problem.

Why is it that a problem, the key to whose solution would seem to be in the hands of the Nordic countries themselves, has remained unresolved for 20 years now?

The fact is that the idea of the creation of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe, which met with broad support from various circles in the states directly concerned, at the same time also encountered opposition from influential forces in those Scandinavian countries which are members of the North Atlantic bloc and whose foreign and military policies in general are strongly influenced by the guidelines of the course of NATO and the United States. And it is well-known that Washington rejects the idea of nuclear-free zones, particularly in northern Europe, as the administration and military circles in the United States have repeatedly stated.

The essence of the objections of the Scandinavian opponents [of a nuclear-free zone] amounts most often to asserting that, since the Nordic countries have no nuclear weapons and oppose their acquisition, a nuclear-free zone has already been formed "historically" in this region. Indeed Finland, for example, which committed itself under the 1947 peace treaty not to possess nuclear weapons, has repeatedly confirmed that it does not intend to acquire or produce them. A similar decision was adopted in neutral Sweden in 1968. As for Denmark and Norway, which belong to NATO, those countries' so-called "nuclear" and "base" policies are based on a refusal to deploy nuclear weapons and foreign troops on their territories in peace time.

However, events show that northern Europe is being assigned increasing significance in the global military-strategic plans of the Pentagon and NATO. According to a statement by U.S. Navy Secretary J. Lehman, the Pentagon views the region in question as one suitable for rehearsing the "limited war" doctrine. In this respect Washington has in mind the territories not only of its Scandinavian partners in the North Atlantic alliance but is also applying it to both Sweden and Finland. It is well-known, for example, that the Pentagon's map earmarks 21 areas in Finland as targets for immediate nuclear strikes.

The principles of the Danish and Norwegian "nuclear" and "base" policy are also causing increasing indignation among Atlantic strategists. Washington and NATO headquarters in Brussels have loudly stated more than once that those principles "do not correspond to the present military-strategic situation," that they are "obsolete" and in general "seriously complicate the fulfillment of NATO's tasks on its northern flank." In this context increasingly active attempts are being undertaken to undermine those principles or, at least, to "bypass" them after "adapting" the stance of Denmark and Norway to NATO's nuclear strategy.

The construction of dumps for heavy combat hardware and the modernization of dozens of airfields and naval bases to receive aircraft carrying nuclear weapons and missile-carrying submarines are being conducted at an accelerated pace in Norway. American artillery capable of firing nuclear and neutron ammunition has already been deployed at dumps in the Trondelag region.

Norway's Orland Airbase has been earmarked as a base for spylanes equipped with the AWACS system which are intended for reconnaissance and for directing to their targets U.S. bombers, including those carrying nuclear weapons.

In conducting its militarist preparations, the Pentagon is hiding behind agreements imposed by the United States on the Scandinavian NATO members on the basis of the notorious "crisis situation" concept. In this context, the Swedish newspaper NORRSKENFLAMMAN poses the quite reasonable question: "What situation is considered a crisis and how is it to be resolved?" Bearing in mind the experience of the United States in imposing its opinion on its bloc partners, there can be no doubt that this time, too, Washington will reserve the right to having the decisive say.

Nowadays there is no task more important for all the peoples than that of safeguarding peace. Even given the full weight of the nuclear powers, the smaller countries cannot escape responsibility for the fate of peace. The creation of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe could be a step, and a very considerable one, on the path toward reducing international tension. Such a zone, in the words of Swedish Foreign Minister L. Bodstrom, will be a "nuclear-free buffer between the power of the two major military alliances in Europe and will help to reduce the threat of nuclear war."

As for the frequent talk in the Scandinavian press on the smaller countries' "inability" to influence the course of world events given the "opposition between the great powers," is it not clear that it is by means of such "discussions" that the enemies of detente, primarily U.S. aggressive circles, would like to instill feelings of passivity and pessimism among the populations of the Nordic states? Is that not demonstrated, for example, by the NATO leadership's clear striving to compromise and consign to oblivion the Swedish government's initiative on the creation in Europe of a zone free of theater nuclear weapons?

The proposal on the nuclear-free north lives on and is acquiring an increasing number of supporters, despite attempts to create distrust in it and to distort its meaning. Speaking in Helsinki at the end of May on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the proposal on the creation of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe, Finnish President Mauno Koivisto stated that it has not lost its significance even now. In recent years, the president said, the attitude toward Kekkonen's proposal has radically improved in the other Nordic countries, and he noted in particular that "the Soviet Union for its part has made a statement on respecting the status of and on providing guarantees for a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe.

The USSR's stance was characterized with the utmost clarity in May of this year in Yu.V. Andropov's replies to questions by representatives of a number of Finnish social organizations. The Soviet Union has confirmed that it is ready for its part to assume a commitment not to use nuclear weapons against those Nordic countries which belong to the Zone. That can be given legal form by the conclusion either of a multilateral agreement or of bilateral agreements with each of the states belonging to the zone. Of course, the security of those countries would be more reliably safeguarded if the corresponding guarantees were also given by NATO's nuclear states. But the USSR does not make that a condition of its own commitment.

During the recent talks in Moscow, which were marked by the signing of a protocol to extend the effective period of the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and Finland for another 20 years, the Soviet side undertook an important new step in the matter of creating a nuclear-free zone in the north of the continent.

"We would not only assume a commitment to respect the legal position of such a zone," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov said in his speech, "but would also be ready to examine the question of certain -- what is more, substantial -- measures regarding our own territory adjacent to the zone, measures which would help to strengthen its nuclear-free status. The Soviet Union could also discuss with the interested sides, the question of the granting of nuclear-free status to the waters of the Baltic."

Such an approach to the problem again convincingly shows that the Soviet Union does not strive to change in its favor the situation prevailing in northern Europe. The USSR's proposals are aimed not only a maintaining stable conditions of peace and security in this region but also at strengthening them comprehensively.

ZA RUBEZHOM HIGHLIGHTS FINNISH LEADER INTERVIEWS

PM170838 [Editorial Report] Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 23 (signed to press 2 Jun 1983), carries on pages 4 and 5 interviews by Vladimir Chervyakov with President Mauno Koivisto, Premier Kalevi Sorsa, Deputy Speaker of the Parliament Pirkko Tyoelaejaervi, and Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Paavo Vaeyrynen, under the general heading "USSR -- Finland: Friendship, Cooperation: Encounters in Helsinki."

The 1,000-word account of the interview with President Mauno Koivisto, subtitled "No Opportunistic Waverings in the Field of International Politics Are Capable of Affecting Soviet-Finnish Cooperation," stresses the president's very friendly attitude to the Soviet Union and to the Soviet journalists interviewing him in the presidential palace, and quotes the high appreciation he expressed for Soviet-Finnish trade and economic cooperation, and Soviet-Finnish efforts to ensure cooperation and security in Europe.

The 600-word account of the interview with Premier Kalevi Sorsa, entitled "The Most Reliable Business Partner," extols the advantages of cooperation with the Soviet Union.

The 600-word interview with Deputy Speaker of the Parliament Pirkko Tyoelaejaervi, subtitled "Life Itself Is Persuading the Finns," claims vastly increased support for Soviet-Finnish cooperation, both in parliament and among the people.

The 350-word account of the interview with Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Paavo Vaeyrynen, subtitled "The Paasikivi-Kekkonen Line Is Unshakable," claims mass support for the extension of the Soviet-Finnish Friendship Treaty which is said to prove the continuity of the Paasikivi-Kekkonen line, though conservative elements would like to deny this.

SOVIET-TURKISH ECONOMIC COMMISSION MEETS 9 JUNE

Arkhipov Meets Turkish Minister

LD100220 Moscow TASS in English 1924 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Moscow June 9 TASS -- First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Ivan Arkhipov today received Minister of Technology of Turkey Mehmet Turgut and had a talk with him.

Session Opens

LD091039 Moscow TASS in English 0846 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Moscow June 9 TASS -- The sixth meeting of the mixed Soviet-Turkish Intergovernmental Commission for Economic Cooperation has opened here today.

The sides will review the state and prospects of bilateral economic cooperation and trade and discuss progress in the implementation of economic and trade agreements.

Mehmet Turgut, Turkish industry and technology minister, who chairs the Turkish side of the commission, said in his opening address that the work of the commission would mark the starting point in the extension and substantial invigoration of economic relations between the Soviet Union and Turkey.

The Soviet delegation to the talks is led by Yakov Ryabov, chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for External Economic Relations.

Proceedings Reported

PM160846 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jun 83 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Mixed Commission Session"]

[Text] The sixth session of the mixed Soviet-Turkish Intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation was held 3-10 June in Moscow. It discussed questions connected with implementing existing agreements on cooperation in the construction in Turkey of a number of industrial installations and the development of trade between the USSR and Turkey. It examined prospects for the development of economic relations, including in the sphere of the mining industry, ferrous metallurgy, the thermal power industry, and other spheres.

It was noted that the commission session will assist the further expansion and deepening of equal and mutually advantageous Soviet-Turkish cooperation on a stable and long-term basis in the interests of peace and good-neighborliness between the two countries.

Commission Session Ends

LD101548 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Excerpts] Moscow June 10 TASS -- The Soviet-Turkish mixed Intergovernmental Commission for Economic Cooperation ended its 6th session here today after reviewing the realisation of intergovernmental agreements on the construction of industrial projects in Turkey and discussing the development of bilateral trade.

"Thanks to the Soviet Union's technical assistance", Turkish Minister of Industry and Technology Mehmut Turgut told a TASS correspondent, "Turkey has scored substantial successes in developing a whole number of industries, including metallurgy whose products are now exported." The planned increase in Soviet electricity supplies to Turkey, he said, will help the Turkish industry to meet its demand for this type of energy to a considerable degree.

U.S., ISRAELI MANEUVERING IN MIDEAST VIEWED

LD180358 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Vladimir Kazanskiy commentary]

[Text] More than a year has passed since Israel mounted abandoned aggression against Lebanon. Israeli troops, however, are still there, trampling underfoot all the norms of international law on morality. What's more, the government in Tel Aviv is openly threatening another Arab state, Syria, and is harboring aggressive, expansionist plans towards Jordan. Israel could hardly mock world public opinion with brazen ease if its patron, the United States, was not behind it. At a time when Tel Aviv continues aggression, Washington is feverishly maneuvering.

The two weeks that State Secretary George Shultz spent in another round of shuttle diplomacy, and that produced an American-orchestrated Israeli-Lebanese agreement, were accompanied by stepped up Pentagon activity. General John Vessey, chairman of the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff, was touring Mideast countries at the same time. The defense secretary, Caspar Weinberger, met the Saudi foreign minister in Paris. Diplomatically and militarily the activity is aimed at saving the so-called Reagan plan for a Middle East solution, a plan proclaimed in September 1982. It is also aimed at expanding the framework of the shameful Camp David process. As we can see, the closer President Reagan draws to the election campaign, the more he needs his Middle East policy to produce some results. But the United States Administration is in for no triumph in the Middle East. The oppressive agreement with Israel it imposed on Lebanon has not won hearts in the Arab world. And the firm position of Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organization is a stumbling block for American-Israeli plans in Lebanon.

Israel, too, is displaying a measure of obstinacy. It does not want to make even token concessions to Washington by, say, freezing development of more Jewish settlements on occupied territories. There's an equally important fact neglected in Washington. Hard as it can the Reagan administration has been trying to exclude the Soviet Union from the process of Middle East solution, even though traditionally and historically this country maintains ties with the neighboring region. If the USSR is not an equal party to the Middle East process a genuine solution will be impossible. The Soviet Union holds a constructive position on the problem of resolving the Middle East crisis. The proposals it advanced on 15 September last year are in keeping with the Arab platform of solution. They drew positive reactions from an overwhelming majority of Arab states and it is high time for American leaders to abandon anti-Sovietism and to understand that if peace is to be restored in the Middle East, peace for all parties concerned and in the interests of all, efforts must be combined with the Soviet Union and with all the sides the conflict involves, including, of course, the Palestine Liberation Organization. The present political maneuvering [by] the leaders in Washington will bring them nothing but more setbacks.

FURTHER COORDINATION BETWEEN U.S., ISRAEL PLANNED

LD182130 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 18 Jun 83

[From "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Aleksey Zlatorunskiy]

[Text] The U.S. Newspaper THE NEW YORK TIMES said it is now common knowledge in Washington that in the next few days President Reagan will extend an official invitation to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin to visit the U.S. capital.

This visit is expected to take place next July and is aimed at increasing coordination between the United States and Israel. What does this coordination mean?

U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger answered this question when he stated that the time has come to effectively implement and widen the U.S.-Israeli agreement on strategic cooperation. This is the agreement which was frozen because of Tel Aviv's decision to annex the Golan Heights, as Weinberger put it. In other words, Weinberger is of the opinion -- and naturally the White House too -- that Israel deserves to receive more generous favors from Washington due to its current actions.

U.S. observers point out that in order to lessen the negative reaction by the Arab countries, which is bound to occur as a result of his statement, the U.S. defense secretary stated that any Arab country can conclude an agreement on strategic cooperation with the United States, and that the only condition for achieving this is a declaration that that country will henceforth firmly and tirelessly struggle against the Soviet Union and all its proposals. In other words, that Arab country should abandon the struggle to establish a just and durable peace, should deny the Palestinian people their legitimate rights, and should obediently carry out the order of Washington and Tel Aviv.

It is not by chance that the proposals made to Begin and Washington's boasts on consolidating the political military alliance with Israel should be made at this very time. The United States, which has imposed the agreement with Israel on Lebanon, has widened to a large extent its activity to turn this country into a bridgehead directed against Syria and other Arab states. It is self-evident that these actions of Washington are arousing concern by all those who are firmly and constantly striving to establish a durable and just peace in the Middle East.

As to the Soviet Union, its stance has been reasserted once more in the report of Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko at the USSR Supreme Soviet which recently concluded its work. Andrey Gromyko said that the role of the Soviet Union in this region, which is in proximity to our borders, is not the negative role of the spectator. Our country has proposed just principles for a political settlement, including proposals for convening an international conference on the Middle East, and these principles are known worldwide.

PERSECUTION OF COMMUNISTS CONTINUING IN NEAR EAST

NC171311 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1700 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Reports from Iran indicate that anticommunist propaganda and the persecution of Tudeh Party members are continuing. Few are those who can be misled by the spying accusations against the communists. The enemies of those who struggle persistently for the establishment of workers' rights have, many times, concocted meaningless and baseless accusations in a bid to achieve their own spiteful objectives. However, there exists a sorrowful and genuine rule: Any effort to start attempts against communists and other progressive forces is nothing but the start of the political (?suppression) of a revolution and, finally, the revolution's defeat.

In order to prove this claim, we draw our listeners' attention to a few examples. After Jamal 'Abd An-Nasir's death, Egypt's rule started to tilt toward the right.

The nouveau riche comprador bourgeoisie strengthened its position within the framework of As-Sadat's open-door policy. It rose in a strong confrontation with progressive social and economic reforms, and set foot on the path of full inclination toward cooperation with foreign capital. Thus, the ground was paved for this group's rapprochement with reaction and for a compromise with imperialism in foreign and domestic policies, as well as for unilateral concessions to imperialism to the detriment of Egypt's national and popular interests. The Egyptian leadership, headed by As-Sadat, hastily tried to portray the domestic difficulties stemming from the open-door policy as the result of machinations by communists, by the National Progressive Union Group, the Soviet Union, and other socialist countries. The supporters of big capitalists within the ruling organs, who no longer tried to hide their support for the imperialists, attacked those Egyptian internal forces that, during President An-Nasir's rule, were the most persistent strugglers for deepening the implemented social and economic reforms, for defending Egypt's progressive policy in foreign economic relations, and for defending the workers' interests.

It was not accidental that the restrictions imposed on progressive forces came simultaneously with the efforts of the then U.S. Administration and its Near East envoy, Kissinger, for the signing of an Egyptian-Israeli agreement as the first step toward Egypt's separation from the Arab progressive forces. The infliction of blows on the communists and all true patriots was part of the implementation of these plans by imperialism and reaction in the Near East.

Everyone is well aware of the results of the suppression of patriots. In November 1977, As-Sadat betrayed the Arabs' national interests by visiting Jerusalem, and in September 1978 the peace agreement between Egypt and Israel under U.S. aegis was signed at Camp David. Sudan was one of the few Arab countries to support the Camp David agreements. Furthermore, the Sudanese Government signed an agreement with the United States on the building of U.S. military bases in Sudan.

These acts by the Sudanese Government were parallel with the persecution, unprecedented in the country's history, of the Communist Party and of all democratic forces. Medieval tortures, calumnies against arrested communists, and baseless and impudent accusations alleging that the communists are elements of foreign intelligence services all form but a brief list of the injustices being committed against that Communist Party. Through its struggles against the communists and all Sudanese patriots, the government is slipping more and more toward a stance that will make Sudan fully dependent on U.S. imperialism.

The examples of As-Sadat's Egypt and of Sudan once again confirm the definite truth that the policy of suppressing truly leftist revolutionary forces -- the policy of restrictions against Communists -- only serve the domestic reaction trying to deflect the revolution from its chosen path, and it conforms with the interests of foreign imperialist forces that are trying to stifle the wishes of nations to fulfill their ideals of freedom and justice.

Apparently the Iranian officials, who have started a crusade against the Communists in their country, are pursuing the policy of the most reactionary Near Eastern regimes.

CIA INVOLVEMENT IN ATTEMPTED GHANA COUP ALLEGED

LD200854 Moscow TASS in English 0838 GMT 20 Jun 83

[Text] Lome June 20 TASS -- In a brief statement on Accra Radio, Jerry Rawlings, chairman of the Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC) of Ghana, said that the government troops had suppressed an attempted coup d'etat. The coup was staged, he said, in the morning yesterday by a group of splinter elements in the Army who were planning to capture the staff of the Armed Forces, the airport and the radio station of the capital. In the course of fighting, a part of the rebels has been destroyed and a part arrested. All of the Army units and strategic points are under full control of the PNDC, Jerry Rawlings stressed. The government ordered a curfew in Accra and closed the airport to international flights.

Shortly before the coup, K. Cikata, a PNDC adviser, exposed large-scale subversive operations by the U.S. CIA aimed at overthrowing the present government of the republic, which is objectionable to the West. The American espionage department, he noted, engages itself, in particular, in fomenting tribal strife, especially among the ranks of the Ghanaian Army. Acting hand in hand with the CIA is the Israeli intelligence service. T. Smith, the U.S. ambassador to Ghana, drew into the anti-Ghanaian operations representatives of the Afro-American Trade Union Centre and the "Peace Corps." After the ambassador was exposed of activities incompatible with the status of a diplomat, the Reagan administration was forced to recall T. Smith urgently and appoint a new diplomatic representative in his place.

The attempted coup is evidence of the fact that the imperialist circles attempt to destabilize at all costs the situation both in Ghana and in that region of Africa as a whole.

IZVESTIYA'S BOVIN COMMENTS ON 19TH OAU SUMMIT

PM151123 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jun 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by Aleksandr Bovin under the rublic "Political Observer's Opinion": "Africa: Difficult Path to Unity"]

[Text] The 19th session of the assembly of heads of state and government of the OAU countries was held in Addis Ababa last week. This session is notable in at least two respects.

First, the session was successfully convened only at the third attempt. The two previous attempts ended in failure. In July 1982, Morocco and a number of other states boycotted the session because it was attended by a delegation from the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic. In November the session was torpedoed over the issue of who was to represent the Republic of Chad -- Hissein Habre or Goukhouni Oueddei.

In both cases the Assembly should have convened in the Libyan capital, Tripoli, which automatically assured M. al-Qadhdhafi the post of OAU chairman. In this connection the African press wrote that "extracontinental forces" had a hand in thwarting the session. For these "forces" (they had in mond primarily the United States) did not want the OAU to be headed by such a radical statesman.

By late 1982 passions had reached an extreme pitch. Calls began to be heard for the split of the OAU. On the one hand the Arab radicals demanded the expulsion of "pro-U.S. conservatives" from the OAU.

On the other, there were intensified protests against "the expansionist policy of Arab nationalism." But ultimately an awareness of common interests and a sense of responsibility prevailed.

Second, although the 19th session is not a jubilee one, the present assembly was essentially a jubilee. The OAU was created 20 years ago -- 26 May 1963 -- also in Addis Ababa.

The OAU's founders based it on seven principles:

-- Respect for each other's sovereignty;
-- Noninterference in internal affairs;
-- Respect for the territorial integrity (borders) of all states;
-- The settlement of disputes by peaceful means;
-- The denunciation of all types of subversive activity;
-- The struggle for Africa's total liberation; and
-- Nonaccession to blocs.

Fine principles. However, it was far easier to proclaim them than to make the real relations between states conform to them. In two decades the OAU has experienced many difficulties, disputes and dissension. Nonetheless, in assessing the path it has traveled as a whole, it must be admitted that it has played a notable role in establishing an independent Africa, settling conflicts of various kinds, and generally boosting political awareness on the continent.

As for the difficulties, they are inevitable. The states which form the OAU are too different and dissimilar. They are also distinguished by differing sociopolitical orientations and economic development levels, cultural and historical traditions, religious views, and racial attributes, and far from similar foreign policy sympathies and antipathies. Internal disorders, coups and countercoups which by no means promote the stability of the African community are also a common feature of the African political landscape.

But relations between the African states are also marked by the contradictory, difficult nature of economic growth. The decline and collapse of conventional economic structures is obviously outstripping the formation of new forms of economic life. Many problems are being generated by the continent's uncontrolled urbanization. For instance, while in 1960 there were just 3 cities in Africa with populations of 500,000, in 1980 there were 28 such cities. That means that in 20 years millions of people have gone beyond the confines of their traditional living circle and found themselves in an alien and in many ways hostile world, a world which, in addition, is still far from ready to take in and integrate these millions of people.

The stagnation and permanent crisis in agriculture has led to Africa's growing inability to supply itself with food. To be more specific, the picture looks like this: the continent's population is growing 2.7 percent a year while food production is increasing by only 1.7 percent a year. Hence there are tens of millions of permanently undernourished people.

Specific figures of another kind are no less striking. The civil war in Chad has been continuing for 17 years. Fighting is underway in the Western Sahara. The Eritrean separatists have not laid down their arms in Ethiopia, nor have the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] insurgents in Angola. Bloody internecine fights are continuing in Uganda. The guerrilla war in Namibia is continuing. The Republic of South Africa's provocative actions against neighboring states are mounting.

One of the tragic results of the clashes taking place is the enormous number of refugees. Of the 10 million refugees in the world today, 5 million are Africans. Some 5 million people without homes -- how much grief, suffering and human anguish that means.... And that, too, is present-day Africa, advancing toward prosperity and progress along a difficult, agonizingly difficult, path.

All these difficulties are aggravated by the policy of neocolonialism and Africa's continuing dependence on the world capitalist economy. In particular, the sharp fall in world prices for raw material commodities is having dramatic consequences for many African states. Thus in late 1980, for instance, a pound of sugar cost 40 cents, while in late 1982 it cost just 6.5 cents: that is half the prime cost of sugar to the world's most profitable producer, Malawi. A similar situation exists with regard to cocoa, copper and so forth. The cutback in its export potential is aggravating the already acute problem of Africa's foreign debt which is approaching $100 billion.

That is the general background against which we should examine the work of the 19th OAU Assembly and the disputes and complications which preceded it and the problems which it discussed.

We can perhaps highlight three pervading themes around which the debates in Addis Ababa were concentrated. First of all, the need was stressed to step up the coordination and harmony of the African states' policy in all fields -- from economy to culture. In this context the question was keenly raised of countering the imperialist policy aimed at weakening African solidarity, exploiting the continent, and supporting apartheid and racism. Next, all participants in the session resolutely advocated granting independence to Namibia and demanded an end to the Republic of South Africa's aggressive actions and the activation of the struggle for the liberation of southern Africa. Finally, a great deal of attention was paid to the situation in Chad and West Sahara.

By no means all positions coincided, and by no means in all respects. The disputes, discussions and clash of opinions will continue. But the main thing is that the OAU has emerged from the crisis. An awareness of the commonality of fundamental interests and goals has triumphed. A sense of common responsibility for the continent's destiny has triumphed. And that, I repeat, is the main thing.

U.S. SAID INCREASING C.A. POLICY PROPAGANDA

LD190939 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0137 GMT 18 Jun 83

[Text] Washington, 18 Jun (TASS) -- Together with a radical reshuffle of the diplomatic apparatus dealing with Central American affairs, the Reagan administration has sharply stepped up its psychological "process" of the public in an attempt to persuade it to give tacit consent to U.S. brigandage in the region.

According to THE WASHINGTON POST, the White House has set up a special "Central American policy propaganda group" with the task of coordinating and expanding the campaign to brainwash Americans in favor of toughening the U.S. interventionist policy in Central America. The group, headed by the President's public relations assistant, Faith Wittlesey, has powerful resources of disinformation and slander at its disposal.

"Fruits" of the White House's carefully orchestrated campaign that have already appeared include, for example, some "newly released secret information" about the alleged presence in Nicaragua of "Soviet officers" supposed to be training partisans who are being sent into Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Costa Rica. At the beginning of June, THE WASHINGTON TIMES, a paper with close links to the administration, carried a fabricated report about "foreign agents who have infiltrated the United States" and who, supposedly, are inspiring the mass mailing of letters by Americans to legislators and leaders of the administration, demanding an end to interference in Central America.

At the same time, THE WASHINGTON POST testifies, all government officials have strict instructions "to make propaganda for the administration's Central American policy in all speeches and public statements." Among those who have personally joined in the propaganda for a buildup of U.S. interference in Central America are the President's national security adviser, W. Clark, and his adviser, E. Meese, who have already addressed a number of audiences.

The White House seriously expects to influence Americans by the dirty methods of disinformation and lies. Having admitted that U.S. public opinion polls now indicate "widestread public opposition to Reagan's policy in Central America," the main coordinator of the campaign, F. Whittlesey, cynically declared that "public opinion must be changed."

EL SALVADOR'S MAGANA VISITS U.S. SEEKING AID

LD200300 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1912 GMT 19 Jun 83

[Text] Washington, 19 Jun (TASS) -- U.S. military aid to the bloody regime of El Salvador will now rise even further. This is the main result of the visit to Washington by Alvaro Magana, leader of the dictatorial regime of this Central American country.

Speaking on a CBS television program, Magana confirmed that the White House "met his positions with understanding." It is known that the issue of further growth in "aid" with weapons, ammunition, and "advisers" to the reactionary regime in El Salvador occupied a central place in his talks with Reagan. Although Magana tried to deny this, according to informed observers, the possibility of dispatching regular U.S. Army units to El SAlvador was also examined during the meetings he had in Washington.

The requests for "aid" of this type were presented by Magana as allegedly aimed at securing "the consolidation of democracy" in El Salvador and "the further progress in the cause of asserting" civil rights and freedom.

However, in essence, he himself was forced to admit under the onslaught of questions from journalists taking part in the broadcast that the murder of completely innocent people has presently become commonplace in El Salvador. The so-called "death squads," paramilitary units of Salvadoran ultrarightists, particularly bear responsibility for these crimes.

Magana was also forced to admit that the murderers have remained unpunished. He categorically refused to give assurances that those persons guilty of murdering U.S. citizens employed in missionary work in El Salvador would be brought to trial and punished at some point. The dictator clearly let it be understood that the murderers of Archbishop Romero will also escape responsibility, including one of the leaders of Salvadoran reaction, D'Aubuisson, who, as Magana hinted, could become "president" of El Salvador in the future.

U.S. AID TO HONDURAS AGAINST NICARAGUA REPORTED

LD182158 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1610 GMT 18 Jun 83

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Aleksey Sokolov]

[Text] Now to what is happening in Central America: U.S. imperialism has become accustomed to considering this region as its own private domain, so the appearance of revolutionary Nicaragua there obviously irritates Washington. Hence the covert and overt war being waged by the U.S. against the young republic. A recent trip to a number of countries in Central America was made by Stone, the U.S. president's special emissary, which was advertised in the White House as a familiarization and peacemaking tour. Here is what our correspondent, Aleksandr Serikov, reports from the capital of Nicaragua:

[Begin recording] The U.S. emissary visited Managua where he rejected the proposal made by the revolutionary government to start a dialogue with the United States aimed at eliminating tension in the area. Evidently this tension suits Washington. In order to aggravate it even further, the United States used its rights as master in neighboring Honduras and has sent selected units of Green Berets with Vietnam experience there to start building a military base near the port of Castilla on the Atlantic coast of Honduras. They have begun hurriedly with no concern whatsoever for the fact that they are violating Honduras' sovereign laws which forbid the arrival of foreign troops on its territory without ratification by the National Congress.

Both the construction of this base, where training of troops from Central American regimes to suppress the partisan struggle will take place, and the ever more open support for Somoza gangs hiding in Honduras, constitute links in a single chain of aggression against the victorious people of Nicaragua and El Salvador who are carrying on a struggle for their national liberation. In particular, the United States has virtually made the Honduras Army ready to undertake direct aggression against Nicaragua. As has already been reported, a tank division of the Honduras Army has been transferred from the outskirts of the capital to the Nicaraguan border. It is planned to step up action by subdivisions of the Honduras Army directly near it. The world public is receiving reports that artillery on Honduran territory is repeatedly shelling settled areas in the department of Nueva Segovia, in Nicaragua.

In the face of new threats of aggression against revolutionary Nicaragua, its State Council has appealed to all parliaments throughout the world to step up solidarity with the Nicaraguan people who, for the first time in their history, have won the right to decide their fate for themselves by a free, independent, and democractic path. [end recording]

INTERFERENCE BY U.S. IN LATIN AMERICA SCORED

LD191542 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0545 GMT 19 Jun 83

["Imperial Arrogance" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 18 June (TASS) -- Leafing through old calendars, the U.S. President is aiming to adapt the past to the present and future. A year ago, writes IZVESTIYA political observer Valentin Falin, the U.S. National Security Council worked out a memorandum on the subject of the "isolation" of Mexico in resolving the problems of Central America, since "that country is continuing to support [extreme left-wingers], overtly and covertly, (in Nicaragua and in Salvador) through propaganda, providing finances and giving political support."

In December 1982 Reagan gave orders for drafting a plan to overthrow the government of Suriname since it sympathizes with Cuba. For various reasons in the last 2 to 3 years plots have failed against Grenada and other Latin American countries, who are an annoyance to U.S. leaders because of their excessive originality. It is understood that the military maneuvers continually organized by the Pentagon in the Caribbean Basin -- air, land, multi-sided, and solo ones, with NATO allies participation and without -- are addressed at everyone in Latin America. We will not be making a mistake if we determine the overall number of participants in military demonstrations in 1982 in the first half of 1983 to be 150,000 men. In the "Ocean Venture" maneuvers alone, 50,000 servicemen participated, including 6,000 Marines, 350 planes and helicopters, and 40 surface ships. Not forgotten either are interventions in Guatemala, Cuba, and the Dominican Republic. I am naming only individual recent examples, stresses Valentin Falin, since a full list of declared and undeclared wars which the United States has waged with its own or foreign hands against Latin American countries could not be fitted onto an entire "news" page.

The crude interference by the United States in the internal affairs of Salvador and Nicaragua is an undisputed and obvious fact. The R. Reagan administration has for some time been leaning more on not its negation, but the establishment of the "rightfulness" of lawlessness. In politics, this is a true indication of a vice. Its name is imperial arrogance, the cause of so many tragedies in the 20th century.

VOA GIVING AIRTIME TO 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY'

LD172200 Moscow TASS in English 1519 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Text] Havana June 17 TASS -- The Voice of America radio station, an official organ of the White House, has willingly given broadcasting time to a certain Michael Sylvester, the leader of the so-called "Grenada Movement for Freedom and Democracy," an organisation of the counterrevolutionary scum who fled Grenada after the victory of the people's revolution. Michael Sylvester, who is closely connected with the former Grenada dictator Gairy (the latter made his country a fief of American monopolies) openly stated that his movement seeks to overthrow the revolutionary government of Grenada "by all means at its disposal."

The rude threats of this diehard counterrevolutionary and his protectors from the White House indicate that the Pentagon strategists are hatching interventionist plans against Grenada. Progressive minded people in Caribbean countries regard this action as an example of Washington's gross interference in the affairs of Grenada, as a new threat and provocation by the White House against that country. The prime minister of Grenada, M. Bishop, has exposed such provocations more than once.

ADDITIONAL REPORTS ON SUPREME SOVIET SESSION

'Information Report'

PM171651 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 83 Morning Edition pp 1, 3

[Unattributed "Information Report on the USSR Supreme Soviet Sittings"]

[Text] The 8th Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 10th Convocation, began its work in Moscow on 16 June 1983.

The sitting of the Soviet of the Union under the chairmanship of A.P. Shitikov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union, was held in the Great Kremlin Palace at 1000.

Deputies and guests stood to honor the memory of deceased deputy T.Ya. Kiselev.

The Soviet of the Union heard a report by K.S. Demirchyan, chairman of the Credentials Commission, on the verification of the credentials of deputies elected since the seventh session of the USSR Supreme Soviet to replace former deputies.

The Soviet of the Union unanimously resolved to recognize the credentials of Deputy B.V. Pushkarev, elected for Moscow City Baumanskiy Electoral Okrug No 3 and 6 February 1983; Deputy V.Ya. Khodyrev, elected for Leningrad City Kirovskiy Electoral Okrug No 46 on 6 February 1983; Deputy G.I. Ustanov, elected for the Tatar ASSR Soviet Electoral Okrug No 384 on 6 February 1983; Deputy V.P. Mysnichenko, elected for the Ukraine SSR Kharkov Oblast's Kharkovskiy-Ordzhonikidzevskiy Electoral Okrug No 324 on 6 February 1983; Deputy N.S. Konarev, elected for the Georgian SSR Gurdzhaanskiy Electoral Okrug No 664 on 6 February 1983; Deputy A.G. Petrishchev, elected for the Georgian SSR Samtredskiy Electoral Okrug No 670 on 6 February 1983; and Deputy N.N. Slyunkov, elected for the Belorrussian SSR Minsk Oblast's Minsk City Third Electoral Okrug No 568 on 27 March 1983.

In conformity with the proposal of the Councils of Elders of the Soviet of Nationalities and the Soviet of the Union the chairman introduced a proposal to approve the session's agenda and order of work.

The Soviet of the Union approved the session's agenda and order of work.

In connection with deputy G.I. Vashchenko's appointment as USSR trade minister, the Soviet of the Union relieved him of his duties as chairman of the chamber's Plan and Budget Commission. Deputy V.A. Masol was elected chairman of the Plan and Budget Commission.

The sitting of the Soviet of Nationalities was held in the Hall of Session of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet under the chairmanship of V.P. Ruben, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities, at 1000.

Deputies and guests stood to honor the memory of deputies who have died. Deputy A.Ya. Pelshe, Deputy E.K. Iltner, Deputy V.F. Mitskevich, and Deputy V.F. Prishchepnik.

The Soviet of Nationalities heard a report by A.G. Korkin, chairman of the Credentials Commission, on the verification of the credentials of deputies elected since the seventh session of the USSR Supreme Soviet to replace previous deputies.

The Soviet of Nationalities unanimously resolved to recognize the credentials of Deputy G.N. Andreyev, elected for the Armenian SSR Echmiadzinskiy Electoral Okrug No 416 on 6 February 1983, and Deputy M.S. Tekhova, elected for the South Osetian Autonomous Oblast Tskhinvalskiy City Electoral Okrug No 736 on 6 February 1983.

In conformity with the proposal of the Councils of Elders of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities the chairman introduced a proposal to approve the session's agenda and order of work.

The Soviet of Nationalities approved the session's agenda and order of work.

The Soviet of Nationalities relieved Deputy I.M. Yarkovoy of his duties as chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities Legislative Proposals Commission. Deputy V.M. Chebrikov was appointed chairman of the USSR KGB and relieved of his duties as a member of the Soviet of Nationalities Foreign Affairs Commission.

The session's agenda and order of work was approved at separate sittings of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities.

The following items were included on the session's agenda:

1. The election of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman.

2. Certain changes in the composition of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

3. The international situation and the foreign policy of the Soviet Union.

4. The USSR draft law on labor collectives and increasing their role in the management of enterprises, institutions, and organizations.

5. The ratification of USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees.

The first joint sitting of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities under the chairmanship of A.P. Shitikov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union, was held in the Great Kremlin Palace at 1100.

On the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Councils of Elders of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of the Nationalities, Deputy K.U. Chernenko introduced a proposal to elect Deputy Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The USSR Supreme Soviet unanimously elected Deputy Yu.V. Andropov chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The USSR Supreme Soviet then passed on to examine the question of certain changes in the composition of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The USSR Supreme Soviet relieved Deputy I.G. Kebin of his duties as deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium in connection with his retirement.

In connection with Deputy B.N. Pastukhov's appointment as chairman of the State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants, and the Book Trade, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium relieved him of his duties as a member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

In conformity with the proposal of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Councils of Elders of the Soviet of Nationalities and the Soviet of the Union, Deputy N.N. Slyunkov, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, and Deputy V.M. Mishin, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, were elected as members of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Deputy V.M. Mishin was relieved of his duties as a member of the Soviet of Nationalities Youth Affairs Commission.

The USSR Supreme Soviet heard a report by Deputy A.A. Gromyko, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and USSR foreign minister, on the international situation and the Soviet Union's foreign policy.

The following deputies spoke during the debate: I.Ye. Polyakov (Minsk Oblast Minskiy Rural Electoral Okrug), G.I. Motsak (Voroshilovgrad Oblast Krasnodonskiy Electoral Okrug), P.P. Grishkyavichus (Lithuanian SSR Vilnyusskiy City Electoral Okrug), K.Yu. Lavrov (Leningrad City Leninskiy Electoral Okrug), and M.S. Samatova (Tashkent Oblast Tashkentskiy-Oktyabrskiy Electoral Okrug).

During the interval between the sitting of the USSR Supreme Soviet a joint sitting of the Standing Foreign Affairs Commissions of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities was held.

The Standing Commissions examined the USSR Supreme Soviet draft resolution on the international situation and the Soviet Union's foreign policy.

The second joint sitting of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities under the chairmanship of V.P. Ruben, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities, was held in the Great Kremlin Palace at 1600.

Discussion of the report on the international situation and the Soviet Union's foreign policy continued at the sitting.

The following deputies spoke in the debate: N.N. Vlokhin (Abkhaz ASSR Gudautskiy Electoral Okrug), R. Nabiyev (Tajik SSR Ura-Tyubinskiy Electoral Okrug), A.M. Subbotin (Nakhichevan ASSR Dzhagrinskiy Electoral Okrug), V.P. Lomakin (Maritime Kray Primorskiy Electoral Okrug), and B.N. Ponomarev (RSFSR Kalininskiy Electoral Okrug).

The USSR Supreme Soviet unanimously adopted a USSR Supreme Soviet resolution on the international situation and the Soviet Union's foreign policy.

A report was then heard by Deputy G.A. Aliyev, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, on the USSR draft law on labor collectives and increasing their role in the management of enterprises, institutions, and organizations.

Moscow TV Screens Proceedings

LD172053 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian in a scheduled NOVOSTI information program at 1400 GMT on 17 June reports on the proceedings at the Supreme Soviet Sessions of 16 and 17 June.

The program opens with the announcer saying that the session continued today with a debate on the draft law on labor collectives which was read at the 16 June evening session by Aliyev. There follows a video recording of Aliyev reading his speech. Aliyev is shown making his way to the microphone and as he mentions Andropov's appointment as Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman the camera cuts to a shot of Andropov with Tikhonov on his left and Shcherbitskiy and Vorotnikov in the seats behind.

The seating arrangement is as follows: front row, from left to right: Chernenko, Gromyko, Ustinov, Tikhonov, Andropov, Solomentsev, Rashidov, Dolgikh, Demichev, and Shevardnadze; second row, from left to right: Gorbachev, Romanov, Grishin, Kunayev, Shcherbitskiy, Vorotnikov, Rusakov, Zimyanin, and Kapitonov; third row, from left to right: Kuznetsov, Ryzhkov, and Ponomarev.

Following Aliyev's speech the session is addressed by Deputy Sukahonov. There is a change in the seating arrangement, which is now as follows: front row, from left to right: Ustinov, Gromyko, Chernenko, Tikhonov, Andropov's seat is vacant, Solomentsev, Rashidov, Demichev, and Shevardnadze; second row, from left to right: Gorbachev, Romanov, Kunayev, Rusakov, and Zimyanin; third row: Ryzhkov and Ponomarev.

Next there are brief clips of speakers in the debate. These are named by the announcer as "Deputy Ashimov, chairman of the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers; Deputy Kachura; secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee; Deputy Novoselova, milling machine operator at the Urals Automobile Works named after the 60th anniversary of the USSR; Deputy Muravyev, first secretary of the Kuybyshev, Obkom; deputy Mazur, operator of the Kolkhozzhivprom Association of the Kriulyani Rayon Council of Kolkhozes of the Moldavian SSR; Deputy Dyakanov, director of the Ufa Engineering Production Association; Deputy Zitmanis, chairman of the Latvian Republican Trade Union Council."

As the clip of Deputy Mazur is shown, another change in the line-up is seen, which is now as follows: front row, from left to right: Ustinov, Gromyko, Chernenko, Tikhonov, and Andropov, Solomentsev, Rashidov, Demichev, and Shevardnadze; second row, from left to right: Gorbachev, Romanov, Grishin, Kunayev, Shcherbitskiy, Rusakov, Zimyanin, and Dolgikh; third row, from left to right: Kuznetsov, Ryzhkov, Ponomarev, and Aliyev.

Belorussia's Polyakov

PM200830 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 83 Morning Edition p 4

["Abbreviated account" of speech delivered at 16 June morning joint session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities by I.Ye. Polyakov, Chairman of the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium: "Speech by Deputy I.Ye. Polyakov (Minskiy Rural Electoral Okrug, Minsk Oblast)"]

[Text] Comrade deputies! The analysis and assessments of the international situation set forth in Comrade Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko's report provide the answers to the most burning questions which currently perturb Soviet people. We USSR Supreme Soviet deputies frequently have occasion to meet voters. And they are all -- war veterans and young people, working men and women, scientists and housewives -- equally alarmed by the senseless urge of the U.S. imperialists and their allies in the aggressive NATO bloc to place the world on the brink of a nuclear missile catastrophe. War is incompatible with the ideals of communism, it goes against the very nature of our social system. Soviet people also find war abhorrent because we have paid too high a price for the right to live, work, and raise children under the peaceful sky of our socialist motherland.

We have not forgotten and will never forget our 20 million compatriots who fell in the struggle against Hitlerite fascism. And I am convinced that people will always visit Belorussia's Khatyn, where three birch trees are growing taller and taller and an eternal flame burns in the place of the fourth one -- the symbol of our inextinguishable memory of the one in four inhabitants of the republic who died in the last war.

Together with all Soviet people, the Belorussian people wholly approve all the practical steps aimed at reducing international tension taken by our party and government. We endorse every line of the Peace Program put forward by the 26th CPSU Congress. With all our hearts we vote for the proposal to conclude a treaty with the NATO member-states on the mutual nonuse of military force and maintenance of relations of peace put forward in the Prague Political Declaration. We ardently support the peace initiatives contained in the speeches by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov and in the report by Comrade Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko at this session of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, as a member of the United Nations and of other international organizations, invariably proceeds from positions of peace and equitable cooperation between countries be they big or small, developed or developing, socialist or capitalist. The true interests of any people cannot be at variance with the interests of other peoples. Many tourists, representatives of various firms, politicians and journalists come to our country and also to Belorussia from the West. However, can even one foreigner be found who has heard an appeal for war in our country and has sensed bellicose sentiments or even merely an unfriendly attitude toward any other people? No, such a person cannot be found, unless, of course, he is a deliberate slanderer.

Slander, however, is the favorite means to which the West's reactionary circles resort to discredit our country. All kinds of "voices" are unrestrainedly slandering socialism and excelling in ideological subversion. And although they speak in different languages, they all have an American accent.

The traitors to the motherland who crawled to the fascist butchers and the contemporary renegades who are entrenched at Radio Liberty are desecrating our Belorussian language, among others, to pour floods of filth on Soviet Belorrussia. The "lie peddlers," as we call them, are gambling on arousing nationalist passions and undermining the Belorussian people's friendship with the Russian people and the other peoples of the Soviet Union.

They will not succeed! We Belorussians will be eternally grateful to the Great Russian people, who helped us to cast off the oppression by landowners and capitalists, to acquire statehood, to defend our freedom from foreign invaders, and to become a socialist nation, an equal among equals in the fraternal family of the Soviet Union's republics.

The U.S. Administration has recourse to slander also in attempting to pursue its official foreign policy. In the heat of his bellicose rhetoric, President Reagan does not shrink even from the most absurd inventions about the Soviet Union's foreign and domestic policy. More than that, he has declared a "crusade" against communism.

We Soviet people are not easily frightened. We have everything necessary to bring any aggressor to his senses should he take it into his head to test the strength of our state, our political and social system, or our loyalty to the socialist community.

Relying on brute force, the Washington administration has declared a trade and economic war against us. Socialism must be eliminated by hook or by crook, they said.

All right, Soviet people know well that weakening our country economically has been the imperialists' dream for a long time. I remember Belorussia just after the liberation from the Hitlerite invaders. The damage they had inflicted was hard to calculate. The fascists had destroyed more than 200 cities and wiped out 9,200 villages and hamlets. And if Belorussia's working people, with the assistance of the fraternal republics, completely restored life in their country within 5 years or so, it was thanks to the truly gigantic strength which is possessed by our socialist system. But even back then Washington was seeking to stifle us by economic and other sanctions.

And the attempts to undermine socialism economically are all the more futile now that our strength has increased hundredfold. Again I will take the example of Belorussia. Its industry now takes less than 12 days to produce the amount of output that it produced in the whole prewar year.

The Soviet people counter imperialism's intrigues above all by their creative labor. They are advancing confidently step by step and taking up the positions outlined by the 26th Party Congress and the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) Plenums.

Allow me, comrades, to assure you from this platform that Belorussia's working people, like all Soviet people, will persistently augment their contribution to strengthening our society's material and spiritual wealth and consolidating the motherland's defense might. We regard this as our paramount patriotic and international duty. (applause)

Lithuania's Grishkyavichus

PM172144 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 83 Morning Edition p 4

["Abbreviated account" of speech delivered at 16 June morning joint session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities by P.P. Grishkyavichus, first secretary of the Lithuanian CP Central Committee: "Speech by Deputy P.P. Grishkyavichus (Vilnius City Electoral Okrug, Lithuanian SSR"]

[Text] Esteemed comrade deputies! It was with great satisfaction that we all elected Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium: Permit me, on behalf of the working people of Soviet Lithuania, to heartily congratulate you, dear Yuriy Vladimirovich, on your election as head of state and to wish you fruitful activity for the good of our great motherland.

Communists and all Soviet people reacted with great interest and enthusiasm to the results of the CPSU Central Committee plenum which has just been held. The deeply meaningful plenum speech by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov put forward scientifically substantiated program provisions and clearly defined the tasks for the further building of a communist society.

The plenum resolution and the meaningful report by Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee, put forward great tasks to radically improve all ideological and mass political work.

The Peace Program for the Eighties adopted by the 26th party congress, the major initiatives put forward by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, and also the Political Declaration of the Prague conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee indicate the real way to deliver mankind from the threat of thermonuclear catastrophe and relieve mankind of the burden of the arms race.

We listened very closely to the meaningful report by Comrade Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister, which provided a profound analysis of the international situation and emphasized once again with the utmost force that the key direction of the foreign policy activity of the party and state invariably has been and remains the struggle to ease the threat of war, curb the arms race, and safeguard the peoples' security.

Lithuanian working people, like all Soviet people, unanimously approve and fully support the domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU and Soviet state aimed at safeguarding peace and strengthening friendship and cooperation between the peoples.

The Soviet Government statement on 28 May this year concerning the Washington elite's dangerous plans -- to deploy new medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe -- stated clearly and unequivocally that our country will never forego its own security and the security of its allies and that it will take the necessary retaliatory measures. Unanimously approving this statement by the Soviet Government, we fully support Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's proposal on giving the Baltic Sea nuclear-free status.

We see it as our very important duty to expose even more convincingly the sinister plans of the aggressive circles of U.S. imperialism and its NATO allies and always to resolutely rebuff the malicious onslaughts by anticommunist slanderers, including the Lithuanian bourgeois nationalists who have found refuge in the United States and some other countries. We also consider it our important task to expose the clerical extremists, cunningly egged on from abroad, who are attempting to use religion for perfidious political ends.

The Lithuanian people are happy to be living in the close-knit family of Soviet peoples, to be walking side by side with the great Russian people, whose selfless fraternal assistance has exercised and is exercising a decisive influence on their historical destiny. Having voluntarily chosen the socialist path of development under the leadership of the Communist Party, Lithuanian working people have achieved remarkable successes. And no one will push them off this path, mankind's highway.

The republic's working people, like all Soviet people, are well aware that the most reliable way of buttressing peace in today's complex and international situation is to further strengthen the country's economic and defense might, and they are making an ever more substantial contribution to this nationwide effort. This is shown by the results of their labor in the third year of the 11th 5-year plan.

Permit me, comrade deputies, to assure the Leninist Central Committee of the CPSU, its Politburo, and you, Yuriy Vladimirovich, that the working people of Soviet Lithuania will spare no effort to implement the party's great plans and increase their contribution to strengthening our motherland's economic and defense might. [applause]

Tajik's Nabiyez

PM182257 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 83 Morning Edition pp 4-5

["Abbreviated account" of speech delivered at 16 June evening joint session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities by R. Nabiyev, first secretary of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee: "Speech by Deputy R. Nabiyev (Ura-Tyubinskiy Electoral Okrug, Tajik SSR"]

[Text] Esteemed comrade deputies! The USSR Supreme Soviet Session is taking place at a time when all Soviet people find themselves under the tremendous mobilizing influence of the CPSU Central Committee plenum, the program speech delivered at it by Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of our Leninist party's Central Committee, and the unanimously adopted resolution on the report of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on topical problems of the party's ideological and mass political work. All this lends a special political thrust and significance to the Supreme Soviet's work.

Today, we have unanimously elected CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. This is a great and joyful event for each of us and for all Soviet people.

Allow me, dear Yuriy Vladimirovich, on behalf of the deputies who represent the Tajik people and of all the republic's working people, to cordially congratulate you on your unanimous election to this lofty state post. Together with all Soviet people, we wholeheartedly wish you good health and fruitful activity for the good of the motherland and the Soviet people and for the sake of the triumph of the ideals of communism and peace on earth.

The discussion by the supreme organ of state power of one of the most burning issues of our life -- the international situation and the Soviet Union's foreign policy -- generates the profoundest interest among everyone.

It is pleasant for each of us today to realize the fervent response which has been evoked in the hearts of people of good will by the wonderful words pronounced by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov in his jubilee report to mark the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation: "There is no more important task now than to stop those who are instigating a new war. The vital interests of all peoples demand this.... The Soviet Union will do everything in its power to ensure a tranquil and peaceful future for this generation and the next. This is the aim of our policy and we will not deviate from it." This was abundantly and perfectly clear.

The report of Comrade Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister, provided a comprehensive analysis of the currently extremely tense international situation. It showed the really gigantic activity of our party, the Soviet state, and the socialist countries, and the daily growing activeness of the planet's peoples in the struggle for peace and a return to the policy of detente.

It is now perfectly clear to every sober-minded person who is threatening peace. It is imperialism, primarily American imperialism. We Soviet people understand that in the conditions which have taken shape, when Pentagon and NATO strategists are gambling chiefly on force and nuclear blackmail, the Soviet Union is forced to see that it maintains its security and the security of its allies at the requisite level. On this score Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov put it very well and correctly when he said: "We have never begged, are not begging, and will not beg for peace from anybody." The CPSU and the Soviet Government are actively fighting to preserve and consolidate it, fully recognizing that nuclear war would be a catastrophe for all mankind.

Tajikistan's working people, as indeed all Soviet people, ardently approve the foreign policy of our Leninist party and the world's first socialist state -- the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The Soviet people, who experienced for themselves the horrors of World War II and emerged from it victorious, know the price of peace. They know, too, that peace and liberty do not come of their own accord, but must be fought for and that we must know how to defend them. And for this it is necessary to daily augment by selfless labor the motherland's economic might and strengthen its defense capability.

Tajikistan's working people understand this well and are making a worthy contribution to the cause of the whole people.

The current year is central and particularly crucial in the 5-year plan. The complexity of the international situation immeasurably increases this responsibility. Allow me to assure the CPSU's Leninist Central Committee, the Soviet Government, and all participants in the present session that the republic's working people, boundlessly devoted to the cause of great Lenin, will continue by their labor to augment the economic and defense might of our great fatherland -- the bulwark of peace and progress for mankind. (applause)

Maritime Kray's Lomakin

PM172034 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 83 Morning Edition p 5

["Abbreviated account" of speech delivered at 16 June evening joint session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities by V.P. Lomakin, first secretary of the Maritime CPSU Kraykom: "Speech by Deputy V.P. Lomakin (Primorskiy Electoral Okrug, Maritime Kray)"]

[Text] Esteemed comrade deputies! We are all well aware that the present session of the USSR Supreme Soviet is resolving a question of exceptional importance both for the country's internal life and for the strengthening of its international positions.

Today the session unanimously elected Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Esteemed Yuriy Vladimirovich, accept the sincere congratulations of the Maritime Kray's people on your election as head of state and wishes for good health and success in your very responsible work for the good of our party and the Soviet people.

Comrade deputies, A.A. Gromyko's report revealed with the utmost completeness the by no means simple situation that prevails in the world.

The latest Soviet peace initiatives express a sincere desire to restore the development of events to the course of detente and open up new opportunities for peaceful coexistence among countries and peoples. Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's replies to questions from Soviet and foreign journalists and to the letter from an American schoolgirl, Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko's press conference, and the Soviet Government statement of 28 May this year are meeting with a broad response and support among Soviet people and the progressive international public. Each statement by the leaders of our party and state is marked by the flexibility, indisputable logic, and convincing nature of the conclusions.

Comrades, our kray is in a somewhat unusual economic and geographical location. It is far from the center of the country and borders China, the DPRK, and Japan. The kray's specific features are determined to a great extent by its increasing significance in the implementation of foreign trade, scientific, and cultural ties with the countries of the Pacific. The Maritime Kray is located in an area where imperialist and revanchist circles are persistently striving to expand military cooperation between the United States, South Korea, and Japan on an anti-Soviet basis. There are over 300 U.S. military bases and installations and about 150,000 U.S. servicemen stationed in the Far East near the Soviet Union's borders.

The subversive centers of the United States and its allies are carrying out ideological sabotage against the kray's inhabitants with increasing pressure. Some 20 foreign radio stations broadcast about 50 hours a day in the Far East. Thus for us in the Far East the class enemy is no abstract concept, and vigilance is our paramount civic duty and obligation.

All this also determines the specific features and special significance of our efforts to strengthen the defense capability and to improve ideological and political educational work.

The people of the Maritime Kray, like all Soviet people, are greatly impressed by the recent party Central Committee plenum, which examined questions of further improving ideological activity and armed communists and all Soviet people with a precise and clear action program for achieving new successes in the economy, social development, and education.

A considerable section of our population knows about imperialism and its ideology not only from books, movies, and television but also from direct contact with foreign reality. Every day up to 100,000 seamen and fishermen are out at sea far from the motherland, come into constant contact with foreign citizens, and are subjected to massive influence from hostile ideology. It remains a very important task for us to mold among the Maritime Kray's people a stable negative attitude and immunity to sources of hostile propaganda and a sense of political judgement.

On the basis of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum's demands and Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov's principled instructions, the kray's party, soviet, and economic organs are improving their work style and methods, are stepping up the monitoring of the fulfillment of decisions, and are responding promptly and sharply to manifestations of negligence and the violation of labor and production discipline and moral norms.

Comrade deputies, from the time of Lenin's Decree on Peace to the present day, the Soviet state's banner has been that of peace and friendship among the peoples. The CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum and the current USSR Supreme Soviet session reaffirm the consistency and steadfastness of our foreign policy course and the loyalty of the party and the Soviet state to that banner. (applause)

AUCCTU's Subbotin

PM182239 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 83 Morning Edition p 5

["Abbreviated account" of speech delivered at 16 June evening joint session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities by A.M. Subbotin, AUCCTU secretary: "Speech by Deputy A.M. Subbotin (Dzhagrinskiy Electoral Okrug, Nakhichevan ASSR)"]

[Text] Comrade deputies: Early next week the World Assembly "For Peace and Life and Against Nuclear War" will begin in the Czechoslovak capital, Prague. This very large antiwar forum is open to all social forces which advocate the people's security and the preservation of human civilization. The international trade union movement will be widely represented at the Assembly. Having traveled a path of almost 200 years since its origins, the movement today unites in its ranks over 340 million people and is now expressing increasingly fully the interests of various working strata.

The trade unions have recently acted as the organizers of a number of large-scale actions in favor of detente and against the arms race.

Soviet trade unions' international ties -- and we maintain ties with trade union associations of 145 states -- are subordinated to the cause of upholding peace, democracy, and social progress.

However, it must be frankly admitted that the results of our work could be more subtantial. Our international activity frequently still lacks effectiveness drive, and keenness in countering propaganda. We see our task as using the most diverse forms to reveal more convincingly and comprehensibly the advantages of socialism and the socialist way of life and resolutely oppose the forces of aggression and war and any attempts to discredit the ideas of proletarian internationalism in the trade union movement.

The working people of the capitalist countries do not want to tolerate the arms race, the cutbacks in social programs, and the rise in unemployment and inflation foisted on them in place of detente.

But the working man's interests count for nothing with the imperialists.

The militarist urge is increasingly overwhelming the Reagan administration, and like an infectious disease, it is spreading to the U.S. allies. The imperialist anvil of war, inspired and encouraged by the Washington administration, is working at full power. Funds are being intensively repumped from the social to the military sphere. Astronomical sums are being spent on armaments. Eminent U.S. politicians admit that the most antiworker administration in all postwar history is currently in power in the United States.

Washington is helped in curbing the movement of protest against the White House's domestic and foreign policy by its loyal stooge -- the U.S. trade union bureaucracy which has become entrenched in the ruling clique of the AFL-CIO. Its current president, Kirkland, received a new appointment from Reagan for his anticommunist activity and has become a member of the board of the federal International Broadcasting Agency, under whose auspices the subversive U.S. radio stations, Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe, operate. The head of AFL-CIO has thus been officially included among the coordinators of Reagan's "crusade" against communism, among the direct executors of the already notorious "democracy and public diplomacy program," a program of espionage and acts of subversion against socialism and the workers and trade union movement.

Imperialist circles and their stooges see "the hand of Moscow" wherever they like, including in the unprecedentedly widespread antiwar movement in the Western countries. No, it is not "the hand of Moscow" but an awareness of historical responsibility for the fate of peace which is raising millions and millions of working people to the antiwar struggle. Despite existing differences in assessing a number of problems and individual events in world politics, despite all the efforts of double-dyed reaction to set the working people and trade unions of the capitalist, developing, and socialist countries against each other, despite all this, the world trade union movement is building up the power of its demonstrations.

The Soviet trade unions' line is clear. It is the struggle to strengthen worker and proletarian solidarity. It is selfless creative labor for the benefit of the motherland, and the further consolidation of its power and might. It is all-around support for the foreign policy of our Communist Party, the policy of peaceful coexistence between states with different systems.

"Our aim is not simply to prevent wars," Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said at the plenum. "We are seeking a fundamental normalization of international relations and the consolidation and development of all good principles in these relations. We will seek respect for the sovereign rights of states and peoples and strict observance of the principles of international law which imperialism is increasingly frequently trying to jettison and trample." The Soviet trade unions will do everything to ensure that the truth about real socialism resounds more loudly on the planet, that the front of working people is rallied more closely against imperialism and war. They have advocated and will continue to advocate increasingly resolutely the fraternal unity of all working people and peace throughout the world. (applause)

Medical Academy's Blokhin

PM171507 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 83 Morning Edition p 4

["Abbreviated account" of speech delivered at 16 June evening joint session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities by N.N. Blokhin, president of the Academy of Medical Sciences: "Speech by Deputy N.N. Blokhin (Gudauta City Electoral Okrug, Abkhaz ASSR)"]

[Text] Comrade deputies! The contemporary epoch has posed before mankind many extremely acute and important questions whose solution bears no postponement.

Under the specific conditions of the last quarter of the 20th century, however, the most acute and most topical is the problem of war and peace, the main determining problem of the fate of today's and future generations. In the nuclear age, and especially today, when the danger of war is growing again, this problem must in many respects be interpreted anew, and this must be done with utmost consideration, with all possible sense of responsibility, and -- the main thing -- from the position of the new historic realities.

The contemporary scientific and technical revolution and the use of its achievements for military purposes have overturned the old views on war, changing it from an instrument of policy into a tool of mass suicide. Furthermore, the realities of our century are such that the treatment of thermonuclear war as a rational, almost legitimate means of policy implementation becomes criminal adventurism.

The U.S. Administration's adventurous course of unrestrained arms race and the growing danger of nuclear war stems from the desire to halt the historically determined movement toward socialism, combined with the dizziness of power of people inexperienced in solving important international problems and, furthermore, lacking all moral qualities. Now the entire world is swept by the spontaneous new U.S. missiles in Europe, which the U.S. Administration is already cynically describing as the "European theater of military operations."

Medical workers today stand in one of the leading positions among the opponents of nuclear war. Soviet doctors participate actively in the international movement "International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War." This professional movement has emerged with the aim to use medical knowledge, the humanism typical of our profession, and the prestige of medical workers to prevent a global catastrophe.

I have just returned from the United States where, at the U.S. public's initiative, there took place a U.S.-Soviet public meeting to discuss the complex international situation and the problems of preventing nuclear war. I can assert that not only the doctors but also quite broad strata of the U.S. public express great alarm in connection with the unrestrained arms race conducted by the U.S. Administration. They also show great interest in the new peace initiatives of the Soviet state, which have been expressed in a number of statements by Comrade Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, whom we unanimously elected today to the post of head of state.

I am happy to congratulate Yuriy Vladimirovich from this lofty rostrum and wish him great successes in the highly responsible job with which he has been charged today by the Soviet Union's Supreme Soviet.

The U.S. public is also highly interested in the Prague Declaration by Warsaw Pact states which, as you know, has met with no response from the NATO countries. At their congresses the doctors have drawn the firm conclusion that in our age it is impossible to wage some kind of nuclear war -- limited, protracted, or whatever. This could, of course, have been possible at the time of Hiroshima, because the Americans had a nuclear monopoly and knew that there could be no retaliation after the bomb had been dropped. Today any outbreak of nuclear war would inevitably entail a global catastrophe.

The speaker went on to dwell on the possible consequences of a nuclear war and the heavy multiple injuries, including widespread burns, material and radiation damage, and difficulties in rendering assistance to the population.

But even if we supposed, he said, that the continuation of the arms race would never grow into a nuclear catastrophe, the arms race still remains a dreadful curse for all mankind.

Its continuation means an unprecedented and ever growing waste of mankind's material and intellectual resources under conditions when hundreds of millions of people in the world are starving, tens of millions are unable to read or write, and millions die from various diseases caused by the shortage of elementary medical help. The launching of more and more new rounds of arms stockpiling is not just an impermissible luxury, but a profoundly amoral practice. Such squandering of assets indirectly results in the premature death of tens of millions of people, all of whom could be saved if mankind were given the opportunity to utilize even a fraction of the huge amounts expended annually on arms to combat famine and disease.

There is also another aspect of the arms race, the fanning of militarist hysteria, and the permanent threat of nuclear war, about which I, as a doctor, would like to speak. This concerns the pernicious influence of militarism on the people's mentality. We sometimes hear that everyone has supposedly been accustomed to the threat of nuclear war for a long time now and that it is a permanent factor of our life. But to become accustomed to something in no way means that it is no longer harmful. People simply cease to take notice of the harm. I am profoundly convinced that many of the neuroses among our contemporaries, cases of neurasthenia and depression, acts of violence, and nihilistic moods are partially caused by that climate of fear, mistrust, and hostility which is fanned by the initiators of the arms race so as to justify it, so as to channel more billions of dollars into armaments.

Comrades! Having heard today Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko's extremely detailed and far-reaching report, I think that we can evaluate with great satisfaction our state's splendid actions and fully approve the Soviet Union's international policy. (applause)

Foreign Press 'Roundup'

PM172020 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 83 Morning Edition p 6

[TASS roundup under the rubric "Facts. Events. Reactions": "A Firm and Consistent Course"]

[Text] The international public and press are focusing attention on the results of the June plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the opening of the USSR Supreme Soviet session. Prominent politicians in various countries and the press note that the CPSU Central Committee plenum was a striking new manifestation of the CPSU's Leninist approach to the solution of the vital tasks of the present stage of the development of Soviet society and evidence of the monolithic cohesion and unity of party and people. It is pointed out that the plenum materials and plenum speech by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Yu.V. Andropov, widely published in the world press, put forward entirely scientifically substantiated short-term and long-term tasks of communist creation. It is stressed that in our era it is socialism which is the most consistent defender of healthy principles in international relations, defender of the interests of detente and peace, the interests of all peoples. It is noted that the preservation of world peace -- today and in the foreseeable future -- is the central problem for CPSU foreign policy.

World news agencies and foreign radio and television report that the USSR Supreme Soviet session unanimously elected Yu. V. Andropov chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Foreign mass news media stress that the further strengthening of the unity of the CPSU and the Soviet people, the continuity of the course of the USSR's domestic and foreign policy, and the firm and consistent line of the Communist Party and Soviet state aimed at normalizing the international situation, turning the development of events back in the direction of detente, and averting a thermonuclear catastrophe are part and parcel of Yu. V. Andropov's activity.

The papers in the socialist community countries and mass news media in a number of other states in the world publish the text or a detailed account of the report by Comrade K.U. Chernenko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, entitled "Topical Questions of the Party's Ideological and Mass Political Work," delivered at the plenum.

Working people in the Soviet Union unanimously support the party's course toward intensifying production, improving the people's material well-being and culture, deepening socialist democracy, consolidating the principles of the Soviet way of life, preserving peace and averting a thermonuclear war, Bulgaria's RABOTNICHESKO DELO writes, commenting on the plenum's results. The USSR's aim is not just to prevent war. The Soviet Union wants to see a fundamental normalization of international relations and a strengthening and development of all good principles in these relations. It has sought and is seeking respect for the sovereign rights of states and peoples and strict observance of the principles of international law, which imperialism is increasingly trying to discard and crush.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum stressed that the socialist countries and their policy are a factor of immense significance in ensuring lasting world peace, RUDE PRAVO (CSSR) notes. The strengthening of these countries' cooperation and cohesion is the paramount direction of the international activity of the CPSU and the Soviet state.

"The June plenum of the CPSU Central Committee was an event of tremendous significance which riveted attention not only in the Soviet Union but all over the world," Poland's TRYBUNA LUDU writes. "The interest was generated primarily by the topical nature of the questions of the party's ideological and mass political work which were discussed at the plenum. This work is a very important integral part of communist building. The period of history mankind is currently living through is marked by a struggle of unprecedented intensity and ferocity between two diametrically opposed world outlooks, two political courses -- socialism and imperialism. There is a struggle for the minds and hearts of billions of people. And mankind's future depends to a considerable extent on the outcome of this ideological struggle. It is obviously exceedingly important, therefore, to convey in an intelligible and cogent form the truth about socialist society, its advantages, and its peaceful policy to the broadest popular masses throughout the world."

Yu.V. Andropov's speech strikingly confirms that the socialist system creates every opportunity for confident social progress, NEUES DEUTSCHLAND (GDR) writes. Touching on fundamental questions relating to the new edition of the CPSU program and outlining the tremendous successes achieved by the Soviet land, the CPSU Central Committee general secretary did not beat around the bush, but noted that the CPSU and the Soviet people are faced with many difficulties which are due to objective conditions and are natural in terms of the present level of development. Yu.V. Andropov's speech pointed out specific ways to achieve new successes in communist building.

Speaki n Moscow at the CPSU Central Committee plenum, Yu. V. Andropov stressed that the sol n of the tremendous tasks facing the Soviet people demands a further enhancement of e CPSU's leading role, Hungary's NEPSZABADSAG writes. The new edition of the CPSU program is intended to help focus efforts on the solution of the key tasks facing the party and the Soviet people. The successful solution of these tasks will signify a massive new step in the Soviet Union's development and in the improvement of its people's life. And then the socialist system would demonstrate even more convincingly to the whole world its great advantages and magnetic power.

The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee plenum and Yu. V. Andropov's speech are new and striking evidence of the CPSU's genuinely creative approach to the practical implementation of the Marxist-Leninist teaching on socialist society and the consistent and principled course of the Leninist party and the Soviet state in international politics, reports Mongolia's MONTSAME. The peoples of the socialist community countries fully share the Soviet people's optimism and faith that the future belongs to socialism. The Soviet leader again confirmed the Soviet Union's readiness to live in peace and friendship with all countries and to develop cooperation with them in all spheres.

France's L'HUMANITE writes: "Yu. V. Andropov noted that the threat of nuclear war which hangs over the world prompts a new assessment of the basic purpose of the activity of the entire communist movement. The CPSU Central Committee general secretary stated that communists have always fought against oppression and exploitation of man by man, and today they are struggling to preserve human civilization and for man's right to live." At present the class enemy, the paper continues, is openly declaring his intention to liquidate the socialist system. Imperialism sees "psychological warfare" as one of the main means of achieving its goal. The ideological struggle in the international arena continues unabated. The Soviet Union, as the CPSU Central Committee plenum stressed, will continue to wage it actively and with dignity, resisting provocations.

Britain's THE GUARDIAN calls Yu. V. Andropov's speech resolute and convincing. "As the CPSU Central Committee general secretary said, the strategic military balance between socialism and imperialism, which objectively contributes to peaceful coexistence, was one very important result of recent decades," the paper notes. "It demanded much effort and resources on the part of the Soviet people and the peoples of the other socialist community countries, and Moscow will not allow it to be smashed." Another British paper, THE TIMES, summed up the plenum as follows: "The USSR has stated again that the path to peace lies through reviving the relaxation of international tension." A BBC political commentator noted that "the CPSU Central Committee plenum was a very important event in the life of the USSR," and stressed: "The leadership of the Soviet Union is showing a realistic approach to the development of the Soviet economy and the problems facing it. A very firm policy is being implemented on all fronts, both foreign and domestic."

All the leading West German papers published accounts of Yu. V. Andropov's speech. "Moscow is displaying a readiness for agreements in the disarmament sphere," a GENERAL-ANZEIGER headline notes. "The Soviet Union advocates peaceful coexistence in conditions of military equilibrium," FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE says, pointing out the continuity of the Soviet foreign policy course. The paper stresses that the key problem of CPSU policy remains the question of preserving world peace. KOELNER STADT-ANZEIGER picks out Yu. V. Andropov's pronouncement to the effect that the strategic military balance between socialism and imperialism contributes objectively to peaceful coexistence.

As THE WASHINGTON POST notes, the Soviet leader confirmed Moscow's advocacy of the policy of detente with the Western countries. He also stressed that Moscow will not allow the strategic military balance to be smashed and will do all it can to preserve its own military might.

The USSR, THE LOS ANGELES TIMES notes, has stressed that it consistently upholds the principles of peaceful coexistence and detente while the U.S. Administration is pushing mankind toward a nuclear catastrophe in its desire to secure military superiority. "The considered and principled, calm and confident tone of Yu. V. Andropov's speech contrasts sharply with the aggressive declarations of the White House," the Afro-American paper [as published] the San Francisco EXAMINER writes: "The United States and the NATO countries are now banking chiefly on an unbridled arms race, camouflaged by fabrications about the 'Soviet military threat.'

"In conditions where the West is waging a 'psychological war' at the highest -- one might say hysterical -- anti-Soviet and anticommunist pitch, the plenum confronted Soviet ideological workers with new tasks." Japan's MAINICHI SHIMBUN notes "the firm tone of the CPSU Central Committee general secretary, who stated that the Soviet Union will not allow the strategic military balance between socialism and imperialism to be smashed."

The CPSU Central Committee general secretary's speech was a timely call for an end to efforts to upset the strategic military balance between socialism and imperialism, India's UNI agency reports. The agency stresses in particular the assessment in Yu. V. Andropov's speech of the growing role of the Asian, African, and Latin American countries in international affairs. The peoples of these countries received with tremendous satisfaction the statement made in Moscow to the effect that the Soviet Union will continue to pursue a course toward mutually advantageous cooperation with states which have liberated themselves from colonial and semicolonial dependence, with complete respect for their sovereignty and noninterference in their affairs.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON VOLGA RIVER ACCIDENT

NC200820 Paris AFP in English 0810 GMT 20 Jun 83

[By Patrick Meney]

[Text] Moscow, June 20 (AFP) -- At least 250 people were killed -- 80 more than has been reported -- in the steamboat disaster two weeks ago on the Volga River, a Soviet witness said today, adding that authorities sent in the Army to prevent details on the scale of the tragedy from surfacing.

In the first such account to reach AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, the witness added that the toll may have been increased by the fact that a goods train was crossing the bridge at the time the steamer, the "Aleksandr Suvorov," hit it. Several cars loaded with iron fell into the river, causing atrocious injuries, the witness said. The witness said that at least 250 people were killed and another 100 injured when on June 5, the steamer, carrying about 450 Soviet tourists, crashed into the arch of a railway bridge. The witness, who lives near the disaster scene in Ulianovsk, 900 kms (560 miles) southeast of Moscow, said the Army immediately cordoned off the area. The injured, many of whom had to have limbs amputated, were taken to local hospitals that were then closed to the public.

An official statement released the following day spoke of "loss of life" but did not specify the number of casualties. Later, a source for the Intourist travel agency said about 170 people had died. The witness agreed with reports that the accident had been caused by pilot error. The helmsman is believed to have misunderstood an order and tried to steer the steamer through a lower arch of the bridge, which was too low to allow it to pass. Most of the passengers were on the upper deck, which was torn off on impact. They were thrown into the river, the witness said.

Two days later, when the source returned to the scene of the accident, the Army cordon had been lifted but the tangled wreck could still be seen.

No prominent Soviet personalities were among the victims, he said.

A commission of enquiry has been created, and is led by First Deputy Prime Minister Geydar Aliyev. Official sources here say the investigation was ordered by the Soviet head of state, Yuriy Andropov, who has reportedly voiced concern over the high number of recent disasters. But observers do not expect the results of the enquiry to be made public.

PRAVDA DISCUSSES ROLE OF RUSSIAN LANGUAGE

PM141241 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Jun 83 First Edition pp 2-3

[Article by Professor K. Khanazarov, doctor of philosophical sciences, under the rubric "Questions of Theory": "Language of Friendship and Fraternity"]

[Text] Tashkent -- History is counting off the 7th decade of the USSR. Our great union today appears to the whole world as a friendly family of over 100 nations and nationalities jointly taking part in the process of improving the developed socialist society. Important factors promoting the consolidation of their international unity and cohesion have been the genuinely democratic solution by Lenin's Communist Party of the nationalities question bequeathed to us from the past, the free development of all nations and nationalities, the creation of conditions for the flowering and mutual enrichment of national cultures and languages and the development and dissemination of the Russian language, voluntarily adopted by Soviet people as the means of inter-nation communication.

Long before October, V.I. Lenin comprehensively substantiated the principle of the freedom and equality of all nations and their culture and languages. The leader of the revolution saw in this an essential condition for eliminating national enmity and establishing relations of mutual trust between all peoples of the country. "A recognition of the equal rights of nations and languages," he wrote, "is dear to Marxists not only because they are the most consistent democrats. The interests of proletarian solidarity and the comradely unity of the workers' class struggle require the fullest equality of nations to eliminate the slightest national distrust, alienation, suspicion, and enmity." ("Complete Collected Works," Vol 25, p 145) These ideas of Lenin's became policy for the party and were reflected in the demand for the repeal of the compulsory state language which was forcibly imposed by czarism and therefore led to the unequal, subordinate position of "nonstate" languages.

During socialist building, there was a rapid improvement in the cultural standard of dozens of nations and nationalities, and the spiritual potential of all Soviet society was increased. The work on the development of the national cultures and languages of the USSR peoples performed within very brief historical periods is striking in terms of its scope and great results. All nations and nationalities were enabled not only to teach their children in their native language, but also to actively join in autonomous historical creation, developing a socialist economy, statehood, and culture.

It was only under Soviet power that about 50 of our country's nationalities acquired their own written language. We have every grounds for proudly speaking of this fact, which has played a substantial part in ensuring that all nations and nationalities reached a high level, the same for the entire USSR, in terms of achievements of civilization and culture.

Socialism has become synonymous with the free and all-around progress of nations and their cultures and languages, imparting unprecedented impetus to the development of the people's creative energy. The practice of socialism has confirmed the fact that there are no "second-rate" languages and cultures. Each nation and nationality under conditions of free development, can create spiritual works of profound content and great emotional pitch enriching its own and world culture.

"Lenin's behests, Lenin's principles of nationalities policy are sacred to us," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov has noted.

This also applies to the pursuit of the party's policy in the field of national languages. Over 130 languages of our nations, nationalities, and national and ethnic groups are now mutually enriching each other and developing on the basis of equal principles, promoting the flowering of their cultures.

Works of art are being created in over 70 languages, broadcasting is conducted in 67 languages, secondary school textbooks are published in 52 languages, theatrical shows are staged in 42 languages, and journals are published in 46 languages....

Successes in resolving the nationalities question -- including in the language sphere -- in no way mean, of course, the disappearance of all problems generated by the actual fact that a multiplicity of nations and nationalities is living and working within the framework of a single state. And its attitude toward language is one of the most important factors in a correct, scientifically verified nationalities policy. All processes in the linguistic life of the USSR's peoples develop on the basis of voluntary, consistently democratic principles. The freedom and actual equality of nations and nationalities create conditions for the all-around manifestation of people's national linguistic sympathies. At the same time multifaceted, underlying processes of the languages' enrichment are taking place on the basis of social practice, and those languages in which it is most expedient to organize instruction and book publication are developing and spreading more rapidly: However, this does not of course mean the enforced imposition and implantation of the languages of some nations to the detriment of others. Thus, the language in which children are taught in our country is determined on a strictly voluntary basis. And the desire of many parents to instruct their children in a more widespread, more convenient language objectively confirms this.

For instance, of the peoples who acquired their own written language during the years of Soviet power, approximately half subsequently began voluntarily to instruct their children in the language of territorially or ethnically kindred nations. In some cases the number of people speaking a particular national language is growing, while in others, conversely, it is declining. The main thing here is to prevent one-sidedness in assessments and to approach realistically the real development of linguistic processes.

The consolidation of the peoples' friendship, mutual trust between them, and their union around common ideals and goals are leading to the emergence and development of larger and more viable linguistic communities. Of course, this process in no way eliminates either national differences or people's awareness of their national allegiance. Socialism preserves and safeguards freedom for the manifestation of national features and the practice of progressive traditions and customs. Of course, it must be borne in mind here that the spiritual heritage, traditions, and daily life of each nation contain not only good but also obsolete, outdated elements. Here too it is important not to preserve artificially what life itself has already rejected.

One of our daily realities is the multinational composition of the population both of the entire state and of each republic, oblast, rayon, and the overwhelming majority of labor collectives. The cooperation and mutual enrichment of languages therefore plays a marked role in the processes of the all-around rapprochement of Soviet nations and nationalities and the formation of a unified international culture. In the Soviet multinational state rational forms of this cooperation, forms verified by practice, have gradually been developed. V.I. Lenin wrote that "the requirements of economic turnover will always force nationalities living in a single state (as long as they want to live together) to study the language of the majority." (Ibid, Vol 23, p 423) Languages' equal rights accelerate the democratic, voluntary solution of the question of the language of inter-nation communication.

As a result of the implementation of Lenin's nationalities policy in our country, all aspects of social life are being internationalized and the national cultures are being mutually enriched and are flourishing. The native language and literature of each nation and nationality of the USSR have acquired broad scope for all-around and equal development.

The USSR Constitution has really assured all citizens the right to use their own native language and the languages of the other peoples of the Soviet Union. At the same time, under present conditions, when a new historical community of people has formed and is strengthening, when the country's economy has become a single national economic complex, there is an increase in the importance of the Russian language, voluntarily adopted by Soviet citizens as their means of inter-nation communication.

The Russian language is, to use Lenin's words, the most "convenient" and most "beneficial" as a means of inter-nation communication. First, according to the 1979 census figures, 58.6 percent of the country's population, that is, the majority of Soviet citizens, called it their native language. Second, it is the language of the great Russian culture, which plays a leading role in creating and developing the new, socialist civilization and which actively absorbs and reshapes all the gains of progressive world culture. Third, it is the language of a people who have gained enormous authority and profound respect among all nations and nationalities of the USSR by their devotion to the revolution and to socialism and their selfless aid in all-around social and cultural progress.

Fluency in the Russian language, as well as one's native language, as is noted in numerous letters addressed to party and soviet organs and mass media editorial offices, is becoming a requirement for every Soviet person and serves the further rapprochement of all nations and ethnic groups, the consolidation of their friendship, and USSR citizens' access to the spiritual values of their own and world culture and to the achievements of scientific and technical progress. With every passing year, there is an increase in the proportion of people voluntarily studying the Russian language: in the seventies alone the number of citizens of non-Russian nationality fluent in the Russian language rose to 61.3 million, which is about half the country's entire non-Russian population. In addition, in 1970, there were 13 million people of non-Russian nationality who called Russian their native language, while in 1979 the figure was 16.3 million. In all, 62 percent of representatives of non-Russian nationalities are now fluent in Russian. Today, fluency in two languages, one of which, as a rule, is Russian, is acquiring a mass nature. That is a fact of exceptional political and social importance, a graphic indicator of the intensification of the communication and all-around cooperation among the USSR's peoples.

The dissemination of bilingualism is of special importance for the flowering and rapprochement of national cultures and the consolidation of the unified Soviet culture. The voluntary study and use of two or more languages in daily life is a most weighty argument in the ideological disputes with the adversaries of socialism who speak of the "enforced imposition" of the Russian language and the alleged "crowding out" of national languages. In our country the friendship and cooperation of equal nations and ethnic groups are naturally accompanied by the friendship and cooperation of equal langauges.

In the course of socialist and communist building, our people have formed a veritable "linguistic internationalism" -- profound respect for the uniqueness of the languages and cultures of all the nations and nationalities rallied into a social and international community -- the unified Soviet people.

The interactions of languages helps their enrichment and development and the further rapprochement of national cultures. The works of authors writing in Russian like the Kirghiz Chingzi Aytmatov, the Abkhaz Georgiy Gulia, the Azerbaijani Chingiz Guseynov, the Uzbek Raim Farkhadi, the Kazakh Olzhas Suleymenov, the Chukchi Yuriy Rytkheu, and many representatives of peoples of the north, Siberia, and the Far East not only serve as a contribution to the Soviet people's unified international culture. To a certain extent, they also enrich the Russian language -- through their graphic, realistic recreation of the features of national culture, attributes of national daily life, character traits, and mentality.

The Russian language -- and this is assisted in particular by a high standard of translation which has traditions of many centuries' standing -- is increasingly playing the role of a sort of bridge between all languages, helping the national cultures' mutual enrichment.

Displaying concern for the consolidation of the friendship and cooperation of the peoples of the USSR in all spheres of our life, the party attaches special importance to the mastering of the language of inter-nation communication by the citizens of our country. In accordance with proposals which have come in from the union and autonomous republics, a CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution on additional measures to improve the study of the Russian language in general educational schools and other educational establishments in the union republics was recently adopted. The resolution outlines a package of measures aimed at creating conditions facilitating the study of Russian by the population of the national republics, the expansion and improvement of the training of teacher cadres, and the improvement of their qualifications. Additional measures have been envisaged for the publication of textbooks, teaching manuals, dictionaries, methodological literature, and fiction and for the widespread dissemination of the experience of the best teachers, party and soviet organs, and public organizations in satisfying the desire of young students to master the Russian language.

The Russian language is playing an increasingly large part in consolidating the community of builders of communism. It is now, not only the main language of scientific and technical and cultural exchange between the Soviet people, but also the main intermediary in the process of their spiritual life's enrichment.

It is well known that over the course of long centuries the problem of languages has been a stumbling block for many states and antagonistic societies. It remains a cause of very acute clashes in the bourgeois world, which can be seen in the example of the contradictions between the English-speaking and French-speaking population of Canada, and the Flemings and the Walloons in Belgium. The millions of foreign workers in the West European countries and the national minorities in other capitalist countries, the indigenous population or aborigines in the Republic of South Africa and Australia, and many national and linguistic groups in the United States are veritable social outcasts.

Socialism, having destroyed antagonistic classes, has for the first time in history achieved the overcoming of antagonisms between nations and ensured the free and all-around development of their cultures and launguages. That is the great progressive significance of the USSR's historical experience, including in the solution of the national and linguistic problem.

ACADEMIC VIEWS REASONS FOR DECLINING BIRTHRATE

PM140740 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 9 Jun 83 p 3

[Article by Candidate of Economic Sciences V. Perevedentsev under the rubric "Discussion on a Topical Theme": "Demographic Policy"]

[Text] Moscow -- There is much talk nowadays about the unfavorable demographic situation. Economic leaders are worried by the shortage of manpower and demographers by the situation regarding population growth. This concern is, it must be said, justified. The crux of the present demographic situation is that we have now made a transition to a reduced rate of population reproduction: Fewer children are being born than there are parents.

There are many aspects of the demographic situation. One of them is the economic aspect. Over the current 15-year period, counting the period through 1985, the population in the 20-60 age range (the working age, in fact) will have increased by 30 million people. But in the following 15 years, the increase will be less than 5 million. And this is not a forecast but an accurate calculation. Everyone who will attain working age by the end of the century has already been born, and there is no additional source of manpower. The rapid aging of the population, that is, the increase in the proportion of elderly (60-75) and old (over 75) people, will also have an adverse effect. The number of nonworking pensioners in society will therefore increase. I would point out, that the only reason for the population's aging is the fall in the birthrate, not, as many people wrongly suppose, greater longevity.

In order to change this demographic situation, the 26th CPSU Congress outlined a system of measures aimed at increasing the birthrate and improving the conditions for raising the new generations. I will recap briefly. Part-paid leave for mothers with a child up to 12 months old has been introduced; and unpaid leave for those with a child up to 18 months old. One-shot maternity grants have been introduced. The monthly benefits paid to single mothers have been increased fourfold. Children's preschool facilities are being intensively developed and there are more schools with "extended" and "full" day groups. These measures are bound to favorably influence the demographic situation.

Such an influence is badly needed. And the stronger it is, the better. It has been calculated that in order to ensure the simple reproduction of the population, there must be around 260 children for every 100 families able to have children. To ensure optimum, that is, moderately increased reproduction, an average of three children per family is required.

So much for the experts' calculations. But what is happening in practice? In recent decades we have rather rapidly been moving toward small families. Research shows that in big cities half the women want to have only one child, while only a few percent want three or more.

What are the reasons for this? The three, apparently most important factors, most frequently cited are: level of income, housing situation, and the shortage of places in children's preschool facilities. A totally incorrect explanation! Here is proof. In the fifties, when the birthrate was causing no one any concern, the position as regards income, housing, and kindergartens and creches was incomparably more acute. Demographers therefore maintain that the more rapidly the standard of living of a given section of the population rises, the more markedly its birthrate falls. The real main reasons may thus be deduced: reduced mortality, changes in economic relations within the family, increased education, and more female employment in social production. Let us examine them in more detail.

A few decades ago infant mortality was very high, and, not without justification, parents were afraid of being alone in old age. Recall that in 1940, 182 children in 1,000 failed to reach the age 12 months. By the mid-sixties infant mortality had been reduced more than sevenfold. Parents were now firmly confident that a single child would support them.

In the recent past, children, especially boys, really were parents' only breadwinners in their old age. Elderly people now live on their own pension. On the other hand, a family's spending on each child has increased considerably and, what is more, children usually continue to be dependents up to the age of 18-20 or even later. Children frequently do not repay their "debts" to their parents, and parents seem to have lost their economic interest in children.

Another law has also long been known: the more highly educated parents are, the fewer children they have. This is no doubt connected with a change in ideas of a desirable lifestyle. And education has not merely increased in our country, it has skyrocketed. Moreover, virtually all women are now employed in social production. And, once again, it is a well-known fact that working women have fewer children than housewives.

Note, that a paradox seems to emerge: well-being, the level of education, and social activeness increase, but the birthrate falls, and therefore, willy-nilly, conditions are created which may in the future limit the scope for society's dynamic economic development. What is the answer, you might ask. Clearly, different incentives for an increased birthrate must be created to replace those which have proved ineffective.

What kind of incentives? It is obvious to the demographer, that a general increase in the birthrate, although many people see this as the solution. A relative improvement in large families' financial position and the creation of preferential social service conditions for them may, however, yield rich demographic results.

One-child families are clearly in a privileged economic position at the present time. Average income per family member is roughly twice as much as in three-child families. Each subsequent child reduces the living standard, and, what is more, the reduction is sharper in large families.

It is, of course, up to each person to decide whether or not to have children and, if so, how many and when. I am talking about something different -- creating an economically privileged position for people who want to have more children.

Such an approach is, in my view, entirely justified. One can, of course, always argue about individual cases, but it is now obvious to many people that, whereas formerly the entire cost of raising children was borne by the family and all the fruits of that spending stayed in the family, the family nowadays does not, so to speak, get an economic return on children. Moreover, despite the state's enormous contribution, the family's outlay on raising children is still considerable. And when you think about it, children are more economically necessary to society than to the family. The work of caring for, maintaining, and raising them must therefore be paid just like any other socially useful labor. Society must pay for children today! Only thus can the economic obstacles holding back an increase in the birthrate be eliminated.

It would also be useful to equalize the opportunities available to large families and small families in the organization of leisure. For many decades now whole system of organized leisure has been geared to the individual vacationist. People have recently started talking about family vacations. But what is meant by this is vacationing in pairs: husband and wife, mother and daughter, or grandmother and grandchild. Is this a family vacation? A five-person family arrived at a family boardinghouse on the Riga coast. What a to-do! They managed in the end to organize a vacation for this family, and then prided themselves on a major achievement. And yet for 15 years now, this boardinghouse has been intended expressly for family vacations.

The number of people wanting to take a confortable family vacation is increasing annually. And here, too, large families should be placed in a privileged position. Just try getting into a boardinghouse with three children at present. I would note: a long summer vacation is the modern urban dweller's second most important need, immediately after housing.

Another solution is to improve the situation of mothers, especially working mothers. The modern woman works at least 12 hours a day at her place of employment and in the home. Given such overwork, having another child means taking on a lot more work.

Don't think that demographers are against women working in the social economy. They are only against women working a double workday every day. The overburdening of women is due in the first instance to the traditional division of housework between spouses. The young, educated, and independent woman of today demands real equality with her husband, including the equal division of housework. Men, however, clearly do not want this and are unamenable to education. Women are rebelling against this injustice in the family, and this is one of the main causes of conflict and instability in modern families and the large number of divorces. Note that in recent years there has been one divorce for every three marriages.

A few words about another cause -- young people's poor preparation for marriage and parental responsibilities. This task traditionally used to be performed by the family. But now it is failing to cope with it. Yet the upcoming generation must be educated in a spirit of the sexes' complete social equality, not merely purely formal equality under the law, which is where, unfortunately, the mass media constantly go wrong.

I have spoken only of the most obvious and clear-cut problems. No doubt there is much of importance in the sphere of the population's reproduction of which demographers are still unaware, as shown by forecasting errors. The development of demography and its allied sciences -- sociology and social psychology -- is essential. Unfortunately, there are few people in our country addressing the multidimensional problem of population reproduction. Incidentally, there were two academy institutes of demography before the war. But demographers' efforts are now so uncoordinated that it is difficult even to talk about the chances of devising a targeted comprehensive program for optimizing the country's demographic development.

ALL-UNION SYMPOSIUM ON GLOBAL PROBLEMS OPENS

PM172159 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Jun 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "All-Union Symposium"]

[Text] An all-union symposium entitled "Marxism-Leninism and Global Problmes of the Present Day," which is being held by the USSR Academy of Sciences Scientific Council on Philosphical and Social Problems of Science and Technology and the USSR Assemby of Sciences Institute of World Economy and International Relations, began work 16 June in Moscow. The most topical issues concerning the whole system of global problems, which includes the problem of peace, the aggravation of the raw material, energy, food, ecological problems, and other problems concerning the whole planet, have been put forward for discussion.

Dr of Philosophical Sciences V.V. Zgladin, chairman of the global problems department, delivered the introductory speech entitled "The Marxist-Leninist Conception of Global Problems." Those who delivered reports -- Yu.A. Ovchinnikov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Academicians A.G. Aganbegyan, O.T. Bogomolov, I.F. Obraztsov, and V.A. Eagelgardt; G.Kh. Shakhnazarov, president of the Soviet Association of Political Sciences; and V.A. Vinogradov, and I.T. Frolov, corresponding members of the USSR Academy of Sciences -- speaking of ways to resolve the most important global problems of the present day, stressed the significance of the most fundamental of these: the problem of averting world thermonuclear war. The symposium is continuing its work.

KIEV PAPER ON CLERICS, FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE

AU141214 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 10 Jun. 83 p 3

[Article by Candidate of Historical Science A. Utkin: "Futile Attempts -- About Subversive Actions by the Ukrainian Clerical and Nationalist Emigration"]

[Text] In the present actions of ideological subversion, the bourgeoisie is assigning a significant role to religion and the church. This can be explained by a number of reasons. Although religion is experiencing a crisis in the exploiting society, its positions are still strong, it has a developed apparatus, and is exerting influence on significant masses of people. While exposing the bourgeoisie's orientation on religion, V.I. Lenin wrote, early in this century: "In civilized, advanced Europe with its brilliant and developed technology, with its rich and many-sided culture and constitution, the historical moment has come for the ruling bourgeoisie to support, for fear of the proletariat, everything that is backward and withering away." The topicality of this Leninist thesis is indisputable even today.

In the ideological struggle, a number of church organizations in capitalist countries are also siding with the bourgeoisie. In recent years, they have been invigorated. At various religious and lay forums, as well as in the press, the clerics are openly and surreptitiously spreading anti-Soviet and anticommunist conceptions, and shielding the internal and foreign policy pursued by imperialist states.

The forces of imperialist reaction frequently try to use religion as a channel for penetrating bourgeois ideology, as a means of transferring the ideological struggle into socialist society, and as a factor to destabilize it.

In the ideological struggle, imperialism also uses the remnants of the Greek Catholic (Uniate) clergy who have emigrated. While claiming the role of the spiritual leader among the Ukrainian clerical and nationalist emigres, the ideologists of Eastern-Rite Catholicism [uniatstvo] are sheltering behind the hypocritical noble phrases about "patriotism" and "Ukrainian national interests" which are allegedly defended by them.

Who are those "patriots" who grieve over the Ukraine?

As a rule, they are former servants of the Hitlerites, paticipants in the Banderite gangs, and Uniate priests who have fled to the West from just retribution, and who have formed there various clerical and nationalist organizations. The number of those "crusaders" newly brought to light also includes the so-called "Ukrainian Catholic Church" -- an ecclesiastical-political group whose activity is based on anticommunism and anti-Sovietism. The "Ukrainian Catholic Church" enjoys the protection of the Vatican and is supported by various organizations of the imperialist bourgeoisie.

Spearheaded by such anticommunists and anti-Sovietists as Cardinal Joseph Slipyy, Metropolitans M. Germanyuk, S. Sulik and others, the Uniate religious communities are endeavoring to inculcate in the Ukrainian labor emigration hated for socialism, and to disrupt the working people's efforts aimed against their social and spiritual oppression. In the anticommunist alliance, they are on the right wing. Along with imperialist ideologists, intelligence and subversive services they are planning and carrying out political and ideological subversive acts against the USSR and other socialist countries.

The leadership of Ukrainian emigre clerical-nationalist organizations places particular hopes on emissaries and missionaries sent to the Ukraine. As is known, detained in the Ukraine and expelled from the USSR were such "tourists" as S. Solomchak, woman aktivist of the Banderite "Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain"; A. Klimchuk, member of the "Ukrainian Youth Association"; and B. Vincenzo, Catholic priest who tried to carry out assignments obtained from Cardinal J. Slipyy and his adherents.

In the anticommunist Uniate and nationalist propaganda, a particular role has been assigned to the falsification of the Leninist nationality policy. While distorting the facts and using the dirtiest anti-Soviet tricks, the ideologists of Eastern-Rite Catholicism and bourgeois nationalism are bringing forward the thesis of the "Russification of the Ukraine," which has been unmasked a long time ago. Contrary to history attesting to the unity of the Russian and Ukrainian peoples in their origins, Uniate and nationalist ideologists are trying to oppose the Ukrainian people to the Russians. The anticommunist falsification has been convincingly refuted by the socialist reality, and by the history of the Soviet Union -- the world's first united [yedinoye] multinational union state of workers and peasants.

Uniate clerics and Ukrainian nationalists are fighting the theory and practice of scientific communism and, under the slogan of defending religion, are trying to stir up anti-Soviet moods and religious extremism. For this purpose they are using the myth of the lack of freedom of conscience in the USSR. They call the freedom of conscience, guaranteed under the USSR Constitution, a "restricted" one. Such anti-Soviet fabrications do not stand up to criticism. The USSR Constitution does guarantee the freedom of conscience, that is, the right to profess any religion or not to profess any, to practice religious cults or to conduct atheist propaganda.

The right to practice religious cults, conceded by the USSR Constitution, provides for the performance, within the Soviet laws, of all kinds of religious activities -- prayers, masses, rites, ceremonies, and sermons which spread religion in various ways. This propaganda is taking place within the Soviet legislation which guarantees the freedom of practicing religious cults, and of satisfying the religious needs of the believers. However, the expansion of religious propaganda beyond the framework of the needs of the believers in a society of mass atheism would be tantamount to restricting the freedom of conscience, because the majority of the country's population are atheists.

Clerical-nationalist propaganda abroad falsifies the Soviet legislation on religious cults and the activity of organs exerting control over its observance. Religious communities existing in the USSR, as Uniate clerics S. Sulik, O. Kupranets, and others allege, are "oppressed." But the falsity of such allegations has been unmasked by the clergy themselves belonging to religious organizations in the USSR and other countries, and by representatives of the world's progressive public.

The provisions of the USSR Constitution on the citizens' freedom of conscience are in full accordance with the appropriate major international documents concerning religion and the Church, which have been ratified in our country. These acts provide for restrictions fixed in the law which arise from the need to protect public security, order, health, and morals. This is the point tackled particularly in Article 18 of the International Pact on Civil and Political Rights. There are no laws without certain restrictions. This also applies to legislation on religious cults, valid in all countries.

In the futile search for "contradictions" between the theory and the practice of scientific atheism, the Uniate clericalists and Ukrainian bourgeois nationalists raise the role and place of atheism in Marxism-Leninism to an absolute value [absolyutiziruyut] and are groundlessly speaking about atheist education as the "persecution of the believers" and the practice of thrusting scientific materialist opinions forcefully upon them. Evidence of the absurdity of these anticommunist fabrications is the fact that scientific atheist education in the USSR is being practiced, in accordance with the principles of the socialist freedom of conscience, by the way of spreading scientific knowledge. Marxism-Leninism, the documents of the CPSU, and the Soviet state condemn the treatment of religion in an anarchic, high-handed [administratorskiy] manner. "...religion will wither to the extent that socialism develops," K. Marx said. "It should wither as a result of social development in which an important role belongs to education." As part and parcel of communist education, atheist education helps shape an all-round developed individuality, plays a creative role in developing the individual's life orientation, interests, needs, and goals. Inherent in scientific atheism is its beneficial influence on the cultural process and on the spiritual development of the Soviet people.

Clerical-nationalist ideologists abroad and in the Vatican have raised a new wave of anticommunist propaganda in connection with the approaching Church jubilee, the millennium of Christianity in Rus. They are preaching the idea of an "eternal religiosity" among the Slavs, and call Christianity in Kievan Rus the Catholic one.

The fabrications about the Catholic origins of Christianity in our country do not correspond to historical reality because Kievan Rus introduced Christianity from Byzantium, not from Rome. In order to spread Catholicism, Roman popes, allied with lay feudal lords, repeatedly organized expeditions against Russian lands. However, their attempts failed to bring any success to the Catholic expansion.

The Uniate and nationalist fabrications about the orginality of the "Ukrainian spirit" and the "eternal religiosity" of the Slavs do not stand up to criticism either. In the lives of the Russian, Ukrainian, and Belorussian peoples, religion has played no determinant role at all. From time immemorial, spontaneous materialist features have been inherent in the world outlook of the working people. They have become a source of free thinking, of anticlerical and anti-Church moods and actions. The most progressive representatives of the people's masses, who represented their interests, were against religion and clericalism. The clerical-nationalist forgery about the extreme religiosity of the Ukrainian people has been convincingly refuted by the history of their spiritual lives -- the consolidation of mass atheism both in our republic and in the USSR as a whole.

The objective of various fabrications spread by Uniate and nationalist ideologists is to discredit the achievements of socialism. They are acts of imperialist ideological subversion, and are playing a particular role in the "crusade" launched against communism by the U.S. President, R. Reagan.

The Soviet people are correctly evaluating from the class positions the exploiting essence of capitalism with its wolfish, inhumane laws and orders. They are constantly raising their policial vigilance. The class feelings, profound convictions, and loyalty of the Soviet people to the ideals of communism, the party's moral and political unity with the people -- this is the invincible force which frustrates any act of ideological subversion performed by various anti-Soviet centers and organizations.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL VIEWS HARVEST PREPARATIONS

PM141624 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Jun 83 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Harvesting -- A Severe Test"]

[Text] Harvesting has begun in the south of the country. The day is not far off when this busy period will also begin in other regions. A severe test lies ahead of the rural workers: to gather in the harvest in time, fulfill the plans and pledges of the third year of the 5-year plan, and create the necessary resources of food -- principally of grain, which is the foundation of the country's food stock. To this end, during the spring sowing the structure of the sown area has been improved and the areas of grain corn, barley and pulse crops have been increased. More fertilizer has been applied to the soil and industrial techniques and the collective contract are being employed more widely.

Local party organs and agro-industrial association councils must direct the farmers' efforts toward resolving the major tasks of increasing production and the purchases of food and agricultural raw materials. The end results of labor in the fields depend on the pace and quality of the harvesting. So it is now very important to examine and analyze critically everywhere the readiness of all elements of the harvesting conveyor and to detect shortcomings and eliminate them more quickly.

The production and technical potential created in the countryside enables each form, proceeding from the ripening times of the graincrops, to carry out the threshing of the cereals in no more than 10-12 workdays. The initiators of the all-union socialist competition among repair workers, the machine operators of the Bryansk, Poltava and Tashkent Oblasts and the Estonian SSR, are greeting the harvest well. They are completing the preparation of equipment. But a number of kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Kazakhstan and other republics are behind with repairs. It is important to remove bottlenecks in the preparation of harvesting machinery promptly. This is the direct responsibility of farms' engineering service and Selkhoztekhnika.

When the ears ripen, a busy period arrives not only for the farmers. At this time more than at any other, high labor activeness, organization and discipline on the part of agricultural workers and the mobilization of all existing reserves are required. Particularly efficient and smooth work by kolkhozes and sovkhozes, Selkhoztekhnika, procurement and processing enterprises, transport and trade organizations, and all who serve agriculture is necessary. It is the duty of industrial enterprise collectives and party committees to fulfill agriculture's orders on schedule, to expedite the dispatch of material and technical resources necessary for the harvesting, and to commission storehouses, roads, and repair and technical maintenance enterprises promptly.

The maximum productivity on the part of each unit is an indispensable condition for harvesting's success. The condition of the crops and the volume of work must be determined in advance and harvesting timetables based on the specific conditions must be drawn up. It is necessary to envisage the optimum method of harvesting and threshing and to make wider use of harvesting and transport detachments, complexes and other progressive innovations. The consistent assimilation of the collective contract will considerably promote success. It is important to adjust the combines and reapers in good time and to close channels for the loss of grain.

The center of gravity during the harvest campaign is, as we know, the grainfield. At the same time we must not lose sight of other concerns. Above all, more coarse and succulent feed must be harvested.

The chief thing here is not to lose time, to make full use of all sources for supplementing feed stocks and to enlist for their procurement whatever forces and means are necessary in order to harvest and preserve what has been grown. The creation of specialized feed extraction teams and links has proved its worth. These must be provided with all that is necessary for the work and be given moral and material incentives. It is a primary duty of field cropgrowers to lay in good seeds for the future grainfields, to sow winter crops at the optimum time and after the best predecessor crops, and to fall-plow the whole area for spring sowing. It is necessary to prepare in good time in order to harvest sugar beets, sunflowers, cotton, flax, potatoes, fruits and vegetables promptly and without losses. These are of great importance in providing the population with food products and industry with raw material.

Save all that is grown! -- That is the slogan for the harvest campaign. Truck drivers, railroad workers, river transport workers, and workers in state trade and consumer cooperatives must ensure complete readiness for the reception, transportation and processing of grain and other output and its delivery to consumers. A "green light" must be created for grain along all the routes it will travel. The procurement workers must act as genuine organizers of the purchase of output. It is important to extend its reception directly on farms. Transport is often a bottleneck in the harvesting. The use of centralized scheduled shipments, heavy trucks, and tractor-trailer rigs and the improved organization of loading and unloading work can contribute to high efficiency in the utilization of transport.

Harvesting is a serious test for agro-industrial associations. They are required to demonstrate in practice the ability to work efficiently and creatively. And above all to ensure concerted, fruitful work by partners. While avoiding petty tutelage, association councils must develop the initiative and independence of farm leaders and specialists, raise their accountability for the harvest, and offer skilled and efficient help.

Rural communists have a great role to play in successfully carrying out the harvest. They have to step up organizational and political work directly in labor collectives and establish daily monitoring of the progress of the harvesting. Relying on the local soviets, the trade union and Komsomol organs, and people's control groups and posts, the communists must support energetically and introduce more widely advanced working methods in harvesting and feed procurement.

It is necessary to show more concern for people and for creating the conditions for highly productive use of equipment and to develop widely socialist competition for the model preparation for the harvesting and for carrying it out within the shortest possible time and to high standards. Committees and bureaus must make more vigorous use of the press, radio and television in publicizing the progress of the harvest campaign and in widely propagandizing whatever is new and progressive in the harvesting.

Shock labor and solicitous concern for the harvest will help the successful fulfillment of the plans and pledges and the resolution of the country's Food Program, approved by the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) Plenum.

PRAVDA DISCUSSES PROBLEMS IN GRAIN PRODUCTION

PM151636 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Jun 83 First Edition p 2

["Economic Review" by Aleksandr Platoshkin: "Our Grain..."]

[Text] A multiplicity of political and economic tasks faced the Soviet Republic in the first years of its existence. Grain was considered to be the most important one.

It has been, is, and will remain one of the main assets of our motherland, an object of incessant concern for the party and the people.

Ears and Roots

Russia used to sell grain, although it produced less per capita than other countries. Here are the statistics for 1909-1913: Russia -- a little more than 450 kg; United States -- 960 kg; Argentina -- 1,332 kg; Canada -- 1,981 kg. Russia's "abundance of grain" on the world market resulted in chronic malnutrition for thousands upon thousands of its workers and peasants....

Our common fields have changed beyond recognition during the years of Soviet power. Including fallow fields, the total area now exceeds 230 million hectares. Its potential fertility is significantly lower than that of land in, say, the United States. More expenditure is also required for the production of output. Nevertheless, during the last three 5-year plans alone average grain production has increased by 74.7 million tons, or by 57 percent, while yields have increased by almost 6 quintals [per hectare]. The problem of food grain has been practically resolved. It is planned to bring the annual grain harvest up to 250-255 million tons by the end of the 12th 5-Year Plan, to double the rate of increase in grain yields, and to ensure the stability of harvests.

Many elements contribute to producing rich ears. Among them are the assimilation of zonal soil conservation systems of agriculture, of industrial production methods, and of scientifically substantiated crop rotation systems. There is also the time and quality of field operations, and good varieties. On the whole everything depends on the structure and utilization of fixed capital. This is growing and already exceeds R230 billion, and is undergoing qualitative changes. Rural areas are receiving powerful tractors, new combines and trucks. The area of irrigated and drained lands is increasing and mineral fertilizer resources are growing. Land reclamation systems with high standards of mechanization and automation are being introduced.

It is well-known that the return on capital investments is better when their structure is balanced. Grain production is more stable and almost 1.5 times more profitable on farms where capital investments develop comprehensively. Kazakhstan's arable farmers, have assimulated the soil conssrvation system and are making skillful use of investments in plant growing, have reached the level of more than 16 million tons of grain in average annual sales to the state. Grain production in the last 5-year plan increased 27 percent in comparison with the preceding one, with quite a low level of prime cost. On the other hand, in a number of the country's regions grain harvests are poor and fluctuate greatly year by year. Some major grain suppliers are being subsidized by the state. For example, Voronezh Oblast, has sold less grain in the last 2 years than it received from state resources. Altay's glory as the country's eastern granary is waning.

The "ebbs" and "flows" in grain supply are partially linked with the weather. But the weather is not only to blame. The size and quality of the harvest depend on the soil, strains, and agrotechnical measures. In other words, the harvest depends on the "root" which feeds the ear, on timely crop tending. And here, first and foremost, comes the graingrowers: his thrifty maturity, his enterprise and his ability to handle resources.

Meanwhile, one-third of the farms obtain less than 22 quintals of grain from irrigated land because of violations of agrotechnical principles, especially the timetable and norms for irrigation and topdressing. Crop rotation systems have not been assimilated on almost 40 million hectares. The winter crop areas that had to be resown were considerable this year. For example, peoole in Kharkov Oblast were forced to replow almost one-fourth of the winter crop fields.

And in Poltava, next door, they had to replow less than half that amount. On the whole, harvests in the Poltava region have become steadier and bigger in the last few years. Could it be that rain is falling on request? But nature does not recognize administrative borders. The people of Poltava Oblast are improving the system of agriculture and investments in plant growing.

So what has prevented others from working in the same way? There are many reasons. Administration by decree and demands not for end results but for the fulfillment of certain agrotechnical rules have reduced the initiative of cadres and produced dependence. Some leaders are used to delving into the state's pocket as if into their own and are little concerned to use loans and credits to greater advantage. Many farms in the Nonchernozem Zone have found themselves with more machines than machine operators. Orenburg and Volgograd Oblasts have written off thousnads of grain harvesting combines ahead of time. And the harvest lasts for weeks.

Take Kalinin Oblast. It is true that certain improvements have occurred here in plant growing. Nevertheless, the productivity of grainfields is modest and unstable. Why? Here is the opinion of economists:

"The structure of investments is to blame to a considerable extent. The mechanization of plant growing is outpacing the chemicalization. Fertilizer deliveries have increased, but mainly because of more nitrogen fertilizers, although Kalinin Oblast fields need phosphorus fertilizers. The machine pool is not being developed comprehensively. Just over 10 years ago there were R1.42 of agricultural implements per R1 of tractor, and now this figure stands at R1.27."

It is clear what this means when applied to grain farming: A shortage of machinery for the carting and application of organic and mineral fertilizers. And yet these are capable of ensuring a 50 percent increase in output. The annual loss of nutrients with the harvest is not compensated for in time, and the soil deteriorates. The workload per seed drill has increased from 57 to 90 hectares.

The CPSU Central Committee May (1982) Plenum paid special attention to improving the economic mechanism and economic work in rural areas and to the correct utilization of investments. Kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders, planning and financial organs, and agro-industrial associations are engaged in eliminating the inconsistencies in the formation of investments. The efforts of scientists, machine-builders, and chemists are also aimed at the same goal. After all, they are partly to blame for the uncomprehensive development of investments. Financial autonomy and the team contract, which are being widely introduced, will help increase the return on investments.

To sum up, in order to produce the quantity of grain planned by the Food Program, the structure of investments, the system of agriculture and the geography of the sown area must be brought into line with the economic and natural conditions of the regions. The range and quality of grain are quite important for us.

Is the Housewife to Blame?

The pies did not "rise," the noodles "melted." These are failures which are disappointing for the housewife and raise doubts about her culinary abilities. But is she always to blame?...

But let us start with the type of grain we need.

Flour for white bread and pancakes, rye bread and pastries, semolina, buckwheat and oatmeal porridge.... The average annual purchases of strong wheat more than doubled in the last 5-year plan.

Rice production has grown almost fivefold since 1965. A significant gain. The country no longer needs to buy it abroad. The Food Program plans increasing procurements of strong and durum wheats, millet, and buckwheat. Special attention is paid to the needs of livestock breeding: The proportion of feed grain in total grain production is to increase.

For this purpose the grainfields must be partially reshaped and their structure must be improved. The quality of the harvest must also improve. It may be that the housewife's pie does not "rise" and her noodles "melt" because the flour contains insufficient gluten or albumin. Such output is produced by many farms in the Volga region, the Don and theUkraine. Measures are being taken to eliminate these shortcomings.

And do we utilize correctly what we already have? Let us ponder the following figures: In the 10th 5-Year Plan, only 33.4 percent of the rye was of marketable quality. Take good-quality durum wheat. Procurements of it comprise about 13 percent of the gross harvest. Each year the country produces malting barley in quantities far in excess of brewery requirements, yet we buy part of the raw materials for breweries abroad. Millet marketability is not much higher than 50 percent and that of buckwheat is even lower. Grain consumption by livestock units is increasing without justification. We can see that even now it is possible to significantly improve our food and feed balance if resources are correctly handled.

The state has raised the purchase prices for a number of crops, which should be a good incentive for the fieldworkers. But even today they hand over significantly more strong and hard wheat than appears on the records. So it is necessary to straighten out planning, accounting, payments to suppliers, and grain assessment criteria. Here is how these relations are organized on the Ukrainskiy Sovkhoz in Kustanay Oblast. Before the start of threshing, representatives of the grain reception center and the farm jointly determine the quality of the grain and its price. If the indicators afterwards differ from the initial ones, a second analysis takes place.

At the same time there are frequent complaints about deliberate miscalculations and short weight. Each year the State Board of Arbitration helps farms recoup millions of rubles illegally appropriated by the elevators. Grain reception enterprises are under the administration of the Ministry of Procurement. It has a pocket of its own. To downgrade the grain is to create for itself a reserve for shrinkage, spillage and additional profits. The fieldworkers are poorly equipped with cleaning and drying facilities. By selling grains which are below the moisture and weed content standards, they frequently lose the bonuses for strength and hardness of wheat or for the malting qualities of barley. Furthermore, concentrates should be issued in exchange for the handover of a number of valuable crops. The Ministry of Procurement violates this condition, too. This is partly why top-grade rye, wheat and buckwheat find their way into livestock feeding racks.

The country has a grain inspectorate. It does not sound the alarm and does not defend the interests of graingrowers. Being subordinate, again, to the USSR Ministry of Procurement, it defends departmental positions. Much in the relations between partners is improving with the creation of agro-industrial associations. Many specialists and practical workers consider that the grain inspectorate should be placed under the authority of the USSR State Committee for Standards during the reorganization of management.

The work of fieldworkers must also be assessed according to the albumin content of ears and the gluten content of grains. Only the correct combination of quantitative and qualitative indicators will bring the grain balance into line with national economic requirements.

...It is the Strain That Matters

V. Pustovoyt's work was a bombshell of unprecedented power in the world of selection in its time. He managed to almost double the oil content of sunflowers. This was equal to about 1 million tons of oil annually, worth about R1.5 billion. And a great deal of grain was yielded by the wheat introduced by V. Remeslo, P. Lukyanenko, and some other selection workers.

Our country has elaborated a comprehensive targeted grain program and over 40 selection centers are in operation. The research workers have climatic chambers and hothouses. Novelties which will produce the future harvest of our huge grainfields are being rapidly created on plots which experience permanent summer. Each year the scientists hand over for trials tens and hundreds of strains and hybrids of grain and pulse crops. But some novelties hardly differ in quality from their predecessors. So why introduce them, why waste energy and funds?

It is necessary to concentrate mainly on qualitative changes. It is clear that there is a shortage of good strains, especially for industrial techniques, strains with higher resistance to lodging and drought and adapted to alkaline and acidic soils. We need alfalfa, clover, a small "set" of groats, and strains and hybrids of corn, barley and oats. There are not enough pulses, which are a kind of donor making it possible to make good the protein deficit in feed. Rice paddy productivity has been falling recently.

The USSR Ministry of Agriculture and the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences must display a stricter approach toward setting the subjects for institutes and selection centers, must raise their responsibility for the state of affairs in grain production, and must consistently improve their material base. It is especially important to be more exacting toward those responsible for the creation and introduction of strains. At times this work is guided not by the interests of production but by the pursuit of rewards for a novelty, even if it is unsuccessful. It is also necessary to raise the standards of research.

Stability and efficiency in the grain sector are directly and immediately linked with seed growing. There is the Varietal Seed Raising Production Association with its subdivisions, and the network of specialized farms is expanding. Take Omsk Oblast. During the last few years, people here have given increasing attention to seeds and the agrotechnical demands for their cultivation. Cleaning flow lines have been constructed. Many of Omsk's fieldworkers carry out the replacement and renewal of strains at the set times.

All the same, the road of a good strain or a good seed to the field is at times long and thorny. In Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, and Georgia and in Vladimir, Ivanovo, and some other oblasts, significant areas are taken up by non-zoned mass reproduction cereals.

The creation and "criculation" of strains must, in practice, form a single technological chain. Wherever this is ensured, wherever each farm and each agronomist are concerned about the seeds and specialized farms benefit from preferential treatment in the allocation of fertilizers and machines, the results are better. In some parts of the Volga Region, the specialized farms have been given nothing but a name. By reallocating plan tasks, they could be freed of the obligation to deliver marketable grain. Quite frequently they ship the elite seeds as part of their grain deliveries, and sometimes they even end up between the millstones,...

Science and production associations and experimental farms are called upon to make a weighty contribution toward the "golden fund." But at times they are slack in helping the fields with good seeds.

The new management organs of the agro-industrial complex have quite a few levers to help them successfully influence all the elements of the harvest, its size and its quality. They should be fully utilized, the creation of an integrated system of seed growing in the country must be completed more rapidly, and its structure must be improved. And of course, today's special concern is to prepare well for the harvesting, to grow, gather and deliver to the country as much grain as possible.

Man, the poet has said, feeds on bread, but first the grainfield feeds on man's sweat and wisdom. The plowman's genius has "tamed" and fostered the wild grain and has invented a product which has become the symbol of life. This priceless asset is constantly multiplied by talent and labor.

SOLOMENTSEV CHAIRS MEETING ON FEED HARVEST

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[Unnamed correspondent's report: "At the RSFSR Council of Ministers"]

[Excerpts] At a session held 30 May the Presidium of the RSFSR Council of Ministers discussed reports by the Ministries of Agriculture and of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry and by the republican Goskomselkhoztekhnika on their work to increase production and improve the quality of coarse and succulent feed and to save grain used for feed purposes.

It was noted at the session that the republican soviet and agricultural organs have started to devote greater attention to strengthening the feed base in recent years.

At the same time, the measures taken to increase production and improve the quality of feed cannot be regarded as sufficient. The structure of feed fields is improving only slowly. Poor use is still made of the huge areas of natural feed fields. One of the main reasons is the shortage of perennial grass seeds.

Each year large quantities of hay, haylage and silage are procured with a reduced nutrient content because of breaches of technology and the stretching of harvesting time limits. Large losses of feed also result from the fact that the kolkhozes and sovkhozes have not yet been fully supplied with feed storage facilities. By no means everything is being done to utilize advanced technology in feed procurement.

The Presidium demanded that the Ministries of Agriculture, of the Fruits and Vegetable Industry, and of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, as well as the Goskomselkhoztekhnika, eliminate in the shortest possible time the shortcomings that have been allowed to occur; immediately launch the mass harvesting of sown and natural grasses, and take other supplementary measures ensuring the gathering in the current year of enough high-quality feed to fully satisfy the needs of livestock breeding, making broader use for this purpose of the great opportunities offered by specialized teams and links using the collective contract.

M.S. Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, chaired the Presidium session.

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